

Iran: U.S. ban does not hurt

CAPE TOWN (AP) — Iran is forging ahead with oil sales despite a U.S. embargo, its foreign minister said Tuesday after signing a cooperation agreement with South Africa.

Iran is negotiating an oil storage deal with South Africa, raising concern in the United States. Washington imposed a trade and commerce ban on Iran on June 6, accusing Tehran of supporting international terrorism and trying to acquire nuclear weapons.

"There is no difficulty for selling oil after the announcement of the embargo by the United States," Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati told reporters. The Middle East Economic Survey reported that Iran's crude oil sales were down just 2.3 percent in July compared to June figures.

"I can tell you this is not the first failure they have had in their foreign policy," Mr. Velayati said. "They have to learn not to interfere with the internal affairs of other countries."

Earlier this month, the U.S. State Department publicly urged South Africa to "reconsider its cooperation with Iran." South African officials say links with Iran serve their interests and open channels of communication.

"South Africa stands to gain from this agreement, and I have South African interests at heart," Pik Botha, South Africa's minister of mineral and energy affairs, told reporters after meeting with Mr. Velayati later Tuesday to discuss their oil deal and possible future cooperation.

Joey Lucas, spokesman for U.S. Energy Secretary Hazel O'Leary, told the Associated Press that the disagreement would not affect generally strong U.S.-South African relations. Mr. O'Leary arrives Saturday as head of the largest U.S. trade mission ever to visit South Africa.

Iranian and South African sources said their oil storage deal was going through.

Under the deal, South Africa was to store 15 million barrels of Iranian oil in facilities South Africa had built to cope with anti-apartheid sanctions that hampered its ability to buy oil.

South Africa was to help Iran find buyers for the oil, and split the profits of any sales.

Mr. Velayati, who signed a cooperation agreement covering political, economic and cultural areas, said South Africa would be a bridge to the rest of Africa for Iran. In turn, Iran could be a conduit to Asia and the former Soviet Union for South Africa, he said.

"There are very good indications that both countries are determined to strengthen relations," Mr. Velayati said.

"We're certainly disappointed that the South Africans saw fit to go forward with that contract," said State Department spokesman David Johnson.

He said the United States had made it clear that it wanted other countries to cooperate in its unilateral economic embargo against Iran, which Mr. Johnson called a "state dedicated to acquiring nuclear weapons and to undermining the peace process."

"We will continue to work with the South Africans and other friends to try to convince them of our point of view," Mr. Johnson said.

The oil deal comes as Iran and South Africa announced the establishment of a joint diplomatic commission, brushing aside United States concern over the expanding trade relationship between Pretoria and Tehran.

Mr. Velayati said the joint commission agreement would give Iran access to African markets in return for its support for South Africa's social upliftment programmes.

The Iranian official met Deputy President Frederik de Klerk on Tuesday and will also meet other members of the South African cabinet during his three-day visit.



SUSPECTED KILLER: Jewish settler Zeev Liebskind is taken to court by policemen on Wednesday on charges of shooting dead a Palestinian during protests over land rights in the West Bank on Aug. 13 (AFP photo)

Carter calls for peace talks in Sudan

ATLANTA (R) — Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter on Tuesday called for a new round of peace talks between the Sudanese government and rebel factions to preserve a fragile ceasefire agreement.

"I call on all Sudanese parties to halt immediately all military activity and respect the ceasefire," Mr. Carter said in a statement issued by the Atlanta-based Carter Centre.

The former president was able to broker a ceasefire in the country's civil war last March, so that the Carter Centre and other groups, including the World Health Organisation, could treat civilians for illnesses such as river blindness and guinea worm disease.

Mr. Carter said the pro-Islamic government and its two rebel opponents — the Sudan Peoples' Liberation Movement Army (SPLMA) and the South Sudan Independence Movement Army (SSIMA) — accepted a late July invitation to attend peace talks hosted by Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi.

Mr. Carter said lasting peace will only come if the parties involved address the fundamental issues that divide them.

"I hope these talks can be convened soon. The leaders of the Sudanese people should seize this opportunity to avoid further bloodshed... and end the great suffering caused by these 13 years of devastating conflict," said Mr. Carter.

Up to half a million people have died in the war.

The initial ceasefire brokered by Carter ran until the end of May. But it was then extended until the end of July.

Mr. Carter said the government and rebel groups agreed last month to continue observing the ceasefire; so long as significant progress was made toward a lasting peace.

Each side has accused the other of breaking the ceasefire accord, but the Sudanese army's capture of the rebel town Kaya on Saturday was the first major offensive reported.

The 17 defendants —

Turkish court releases Kurds; case continues

ANKARA (R) — A Turkish court on Wednesday released from detention a former Kurdish deputy and 15 others on trial for separation because of a protest last month during a trial of officials from a pro-Kurdish party (Hadep).

Sirri Sakik, a former deputy from the now-banned Democracy Party (DEP), and the other defendants face between two to five years if found guilty under article 8 of the anti-terror law, their lawyer told Reuters.

"What they are really being charged with is being Kurds," said lawyer Yusuf Alatas.

Article 8 is generally used against people who say or write something critical about Turkey's treatment of its Kurdish minority. Scores of writers and others are in prison under the controversial law that Ankara's Western allies want changed.

The 17 defendants —

one was not detained — were part of a group of some 240 people detained on July 6 after they were blocked from attending the hearing of four officials from the People's Democracy Party (Hadep).

Spectators left in the hallway broke into traditional Kurdish wailing while clapping and flashing the victory sign with their fingers.

Mr. Sakik, a former member of Hadep's banned predecessor the Democracy Party (DEP), was released in December after nine months in jail for separation.

15 other DEP parliamentarians are still in prison after being convicted of links to rebel Kurdish guerrillas.

Turkish law does not use the bail system and the courts have the option of detaining people while trials are ongoing.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Malaysian officials visit Iran for Bosnia talks

TEHRAN (AFP) — A high-level Malaysian military delegation arrived here Wednesday for talks with their Iranian counterparts on the Bosnia crisis. Iranian Radio said the delegation, headed by the commander of the Malaysian armed forces, General Ismael Omar, is here on the third leg of a regional tour which also took it to Pakistan and Turkey, it said. Gen. Omar told reporters after arriving that he would discuss bilateral and regional issues, notably those related to the Islamic world, including Bosnia. Gen. Mohammad Bagher Zolghadr — the chief-of-staff of the Iranian elite force, the Revolutionary Guards — said Iran and Malaysia hoped to "find a concrete and effective solution" to the Bosnian conflict. Iranian officials said earlier this month that military experts from the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) contact group would meet in Tehran to discuss lifting the arms embargo on Bosnia. The meeting here would be followed up soon by another session in Malaysia, they said.

Israeli students paint army tank pink

TEL AVIV (AP) — Students protesting militarism in Israeli society painted an army tank memorial bubble-gum pink. "I understand that there are other views, but this seems pretty ridiculous," said Arieh Keren, director of the armoured corps memorial, which brought in a crane-Wednesday to remove the offending tank. "Of course these machines of war do not symbolise peace, but in a way they contributed to peace." The tank, a Soviet-built, Stalin-class tank captured from the Egyptians in the 1967 Middle East war, stood along the main Tel Aviv-Jerusalem highway. Avi Posen, a spokesman for the students, told the Associated Press the tank represented "the militarism and other grotesque periods in Israel's history. These were vehicles of slaughter and a symbol of the pursuit of militarism." The students included former commandos and reserve officers. Mr. Keren said that when he learned the tank had been painted pink, "I went there and put some flowers in the barrel."

Bombs explode in oil installations in Iran

TEHRAN (AFP) — Two bombs exploded in oil installations in the petroleum-rich southwestern Iran causing extensive damage, a newspaper reported Wednesday. The "relatively powerful" devices, which went off on Saturday, were placed in oil pipelines running through Ahvaz, the main city of Khuzestan province bordering Iraq, the daily Iran said. There were no casualties. The daily blamed the attack on the main armed Iranian opposition group, the Mujahedeen-e-Khalq. It recalled that the Iraq-based group had claimed responsibility for a series of earlier bomb attacks against oil installations in Khuzestan province. The Mujahedeen said in June 1993 that their rebels had destroyed 11 pipelines in the region.

U.S. helicopter crashes off Cyprus

NICOSIA (AP) — Police aircraft and boats pressed on Wednesday with the search for four U.S. crewmen missing after their helicopter crashed in the Mediterranean Sea, authorities said. A U.S. Navy ship and British Royal Air Force helicopter joined in the operation off the southern coast of this island, where the Black Hawk helicopter went down Tuesday night. Wreckage of the helicopter was found in the morning strewn over a large area of Ziyi Bay, 27 kilometres west of Larnaca airport, said a police official, who spoke on exchange for anonymity. The Black Hawk was headed for the airport in tandem with another after taking off from the British air base at Akrotiri on Cyprus. It was scheduled to pick up supplies for the U.S. embassy in Beirut. The crash occurred as the U.S. Navy and Air Force staged joint exercises about 100 kilometres further south in the Mediterranean.

UAE researcher wants more local babies

ABU DHABI (AP) — A government researcher has reportedly recommended that local parents get financial incentives to have more babies in order to offset rising numbers of foreign and mixed-race children. This Gulf state, where eight of every 10 residents is an expatriate, is worried about its changing demographics brought about by its oil wealth and importation of foreign labour. "There is currently an imbalance between the number of nationals and expatriates," Abdulla Al Ahmed, a director at the UAE state audit department, said in a study reported by the local English-language newspaper, Gulf News. "We need to have more nationals... take a greater role in the large economic strides the country is achieving." A marriage fund, established a few years ago by the president, Sheikh Zayed Ben Sultan Al Nahayan, to financially help national men meet high wedding costs, lends 70,000 dirhams (\$19,000) to the men who marry local women. Mr. Ahmed proposed that instead of having to pay back the sum in installments, the couples should be given an exemption of 20.

Turkish embassy reopens in Kabul

KABUL (AP) — Turkey has reopened its embassy in Kabul after a lapse of two and a half years, officials said Wednesday. The Turkish embassy was evacuated in February 1993 because of the poor security situation amid intense factional fighting. "We feel that the security situation now is fine and we have therefore returned," said Turkish Charge d'Affaires Salih Sen, following the formal reopening of his mission Tuesday. Pakistan and India restored their embassies this year, while Iran and Indonesia never withdrew their missions. The diplomat underlined Turkey's neutrality, saying "we do not make any discrimination between different Afghan ethnic groups, have no favourites whatsoever and enjoy good relations with all of the parties."

7 officers in Iraq shootdown face end of career

Hawk helicopters for Iraqi Hind aircraft. Each fighter pilot shot down one chopper; no one aboard survived.

The punishments were announced Tuesday by Major General Nolan Skute, the staff judge advocate of the air force, the service's top legal officer. He said no additional disciplinary action is contemplated.

Gen. Fogelman said the two F-15 pilots — Lieutenant General Randy May and Captain Eric Wickson — are barred from flying duties for at least three years. That effectively ends their careers as air force fighter pilots, although they could remain in the service in other jobs.

Generals receiving critical letters are Jeffrey S. Pilkington, commander of Incirlik, Turkey, of the air force operations in northern Iraq, and Curtis Emery II, who at the time of the shootdown was a colonel.

Gen. Fogelman decided to issue the letters of evaluation

after personally reviewing the seven men's performance reports and determining they "did not adequately meet the high standards of the air force," one official said.

In addition to the groundings, Gen. Fogelman wrote highly critical "letters of evaluation" on the two F-15 pilots, the three AWACS crews and two brigadier generals.

These letters are entered in the men's permanent personnel files and taken into consideration by promotion boards: in effect, it means the men are highly unlikely to be promoted again.

Generals receiving critical letters are Jeffrey S. Pilkington, commander of Incirlik, Turkey, of the air force operations in northern Iraq, and Curtis Emery II, who at the time of the shootdown was a colonel.

Gen. Fogelman decided to issue the letters of evaluation

after personally reviewing the seven men's performance reports and determining they "did not adequately meet the high standards of the air force," one official said.

All had been reprimanded in the shootdown, but the air force still came under strong criticism, particularly from family members of some of those killed in the shootdown, for not punishing those responsible sufficiently.

Col. Wang, who claimed he was being made a scapegoat for the mistakes of others, was the only officer tried criminally. After his acquittal, Deputy Defence Secretary John White last month ordered the air force to consider additional non-criminal punishments.

Mr. White set an Aug. 23 deadline for Air Force Secretary Sheila Widnall to report the results. Mr. White received Gen. Fogelman's decision on the seven men last Friday.

Jordan Times
Tel: 667171

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 73111-19

PROGRAMME TWO

12:30 ... Iris-the Happy Professor

14:45 ... Noddy

14:45 ... Fireman Sam

14:45 ... My Secret Identity

14:45 ... NBA

14:45 ... Dead Men's Tales

14:45 ... Take Your Pick

14:45 ... Witness Video

17:00 ... Children's Programme — Raham

17:30 ... Varieties and Game Show — Le Modes Es A Vous

19:45 ... News in French

19:45 ... Magazine — Portrait D'Alain Cavalier

19:45 ... News Headlines

19:45 ... National Geographic

20:45 ... The Album Show

20:45 ... Murder She Wrote

20:45 ... News in English

22:45 ... Feature film: "L'Addition — The Bill"

22:45 ... Shogun

23:45 ... News in English



Panel to improve jurisdiction over tourism investments in Aqaba — minister

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

high-level Malaysian delegation for talks on the Bosnia crisis, transferred by the commander-in-chief Ismael Omar, to the tour which also included Gen. Omar told the Higher Council on Tourism will meet in Aqaba to discuss bilateral relations with the Islamic world.

Bagher Zolghandeh, the jurisdiction of tourism in Malaysia, hoped to "fragment" the tourism industry in Aqaba. Mr. Khatib told the Jordan Times that the existing jurisdiction over investments in Aqaba is "fragmented" between the Aqaba Region Authority and the Jordan Valley Authority for investors.

The aim, he said, is to eventually arrive at international standards.

Meanwhile, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Wednesday reported that the Tourism Department in Aqaba said that a total of 69,835 visitors had crossed into Jordan through the southern crossing point at Wadi Araba, near Aqaba, since it opened in August 1994.

The department said it



Abdul Ilah Khatib

expects a further flow of tourists through the crossing point in the autumn, winter and spring.

The Tourism Department also said it was carrying out improvements on tourist facilities.

House discusses Khalifeh case, laws

(Continued from page 12)

The prime minister has said that the case would be handled by the higher court for criminal cases.

Asking for a specific and detailed reply from the minister on each question raised by every deputy, Deputy Basam Emoush said many queries over the case were left unanswered by the minister.

The deputy added that the minister should reveal "who issued the order to shoot Mahmoud Awamleh, what was he accused of, and whether the police operation could have been carried out differently."

Awamleh's "problem was that he was a man of principle," Dr. Emoush said. "He wanted to speak his mind and say what was right and what was wrong regardless of who was involved" in his accusations.

"He was a religious per-

son. He was not a fugitive," Dr. Emoush said. "On every letter he mailed or faxed, Mahmoud used to write his full name and address.

Is it reasonable that such barbaric action be taken against him?"

Dr. Emoush said that several deputies tried to visit Bashir in hospital but they were not allowed to see him.

Mr. Hamad said that all details will be provided to the House upon request through the judicial authority since the case is being handled by the attorney general.

"The history of the Kingdom testifies to the government's adherence to democracy and their commitment to ensuring the safety and security of the people," the minister said. "Democracy in Jordan is an example for the whole region."

Mideast bank

(Continued from page 12)

funds, an arrangement financed separately by the wealthier members to provide special concessionary loans.

The international task force, made up of representatives of 30 countries from within and outside the Middle East, has scheduled another meeting for Sept. 12-14 in Rome. At this meeting, task force members hope to refine the proposed bank's draft articles of agreement for endorsement at the Mideast summit.

The Clinton administration, in the words of Assistant Secretary of State Robert Pelletreau, is "intent on ensuring the development bank's financial soundness."

He added, however, a word of caution in a recent testimony before Congress.

"Dayan reprimanded

Eitan, not Biro, for killing prisoners all the way from Ras Sudar until Sharm Al Sheikh," said Pail, who said he attended the meeting.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Saudi vehicles exempted from entry fees

between the two countries. Under the deal the two sides agreed to remove restrictions on flights and the type of aircraft used in transport operations. The memorandum was signed by Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) Director General Ahmad Jweibet and the head of the Yemeni Civil Aviation Corporation in the presence of Yemen's ambassador to Jordan Ahmad Hassan Lawzi.

Romanian team meets with JBA head

AMMAN (J.T.) — A delegation representing small and medium-size economic and business organisations in Romania met here with Chairman of the Jordanian Businessmen's Association Hamdi Tabba'a and said Romanian businessmen were willing to set up a Jordanian-Romanian business council. The head of the delegation, Mircea Mosora, said such a council would help stimulate trade between Romania and Jordan.

WHAT'S GOING ON

FILM

The Muppet Movie," at the American Center on Saturday at 5:00 p.m.

PLAYS

"The Maids," (written by Jean Genet) starring Majid Qasas and Najwa Kondakji at the Royal Cultural Centre, Main Theatre on Thursday and Friday at 8:30 p.m.

"Badranah," (in Arabic) at the Royal Cultural Centre, Main Theatre on Thursday and Friday at 7:00 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

* Oil paintings by Yassin Al Mohammadawi at Baladna Art Gallery.

* Abstract art by Fadwa Al Nabulsi at the Royal Cultural Centre.

* Paintings by "Pioneers of the Fifties" Isma'il and Suzanne Al Sheikly, Khalid Qassab, and Dr. Nuri Behjet at Orfali Art Gallery, Umm Utheina.

* "Exhibition of Chinese Products '95," at Al Bassam Hall, King Abdullah Gardens.

* Exhibition demonstrating the developments of cinema over the past century at the French Cultural Centre.

Turkish private sector to participate in MENA conference

AMMAN (J.T.) — The head of a visiting Turkish economic and trade delegation, Asra Tali Oglu, told the Jordanian Businessmen's Association (JBA) Wednesday that the Turkish private sector will take active part in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) conference to be held here in October.

The delegation members, who arrived in Amman Tuesday, said that Turkish Prime Minister Tansu Ciller will most probably lead the official Turkish delegation to the conference.

JBA Chairman Hamdi Tabba'a said that the JBA was trying to ensure the widest possible participation in the coming conference by various countries and that the Jordanian private sector was spearheading preparations for the meeting.

Mr. Tabba'a also discussed with the Turkish delegation arrangements for a visit to Jordan by a Turkish business delegation in November and for a Jordanian business delegation to visit Turkey next month.

The JBA is cooperating with Turkish businessmen through a Jordan-Turkey business council created in mid-1994 which Mr. Tabba'a said has encouraged increased trade relations between Jordan and Turkey.

Mr. Tabba'a said that after the 1956 war, then-Chief of Staff Moshe Dayan called together battalion commanders and brought up the killings of PoWs carried out by the 890th battalion commanded by Rafael Eitan, today a member of parliament who heads the right-wing Tzomet party.

Mr. Pail said that the army did not allow, but rather retired officers, Mr. Eitan, not Biro, for killing prisoners all the way from Ras Sudar until Sharm Al Sheikh," said Pail, who said he attended the meeting.

He added, however, a word of caution in a recent testimony before Congress.

The Clinton administration, in the words of Assistant Secretary of State Robert Pelletreau, is "intent on ensuring the development bank's financial soundness."

He added, however, a word of caution in a recent testimony before Congress.

The JBA and the Palestinian business last month created a Jordan-Palestinian Business Council to promote trade relations in the wake of the first Jordanian-Palestinian business conference held in Amman in June.

Cabinet names delegation to U.N. General Assembly meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Ministers, which met under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, Wednesday named Jordan's delegation to the U.N. General Assembly's forthcoming meeting in New York.

The resignation of former U.N. Ambassador Adnan Abu Odeh has left a vacancy in the Jordan mission to the world body.

The delegation will be headed by Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti and include Awn Khawseen, legal advisor to His Majesty King Hussein and the government, Ibrahim Nabulsi and Omar Rifai of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in addition to Jordan's standing U.N. delegation members.

The resignation of former U.N. Ambassador Adnan Abu Odeh has left a vacancy in the Jordan mission to the world body.

The most likely replacement is said to be Ambassador Hassan Abu Niemeh who was most recently posted to Rome.

The U.N. General Assembly will convene for the first 13 days of October. The

same delegation will also attend the Non-Aligned Nations' foreign ministers meeting on October 13. The Cabinet also retired three ambassadors as of August 15.

They are Khaled Obeidat, Assem Qteishat, and Kamal Hisa who was serving in India.

Mutassem Bilbeisi, who was ambassador to Paris, has retired upon his own request, which was accepted by the Cabinet effective Sept. 1.



German minister's visit to include talks on rescheduling Jordan's debts to Bonn

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — German Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development Carl Dieter Spranger will visit Jordan next week for discussions on German assistance to Jordan and rescheduling of the Kingdom's debts to Bonn, a German embassy official said Wednesday.

Mr. Dieter's visit comes as a follow-up to talks German Chancellor Helmut Kohl had here in June when Jordan and Germany agreed to explore means to further economic cooperation and study means through which Bonn could help Amman.

Jordan owes Germany about \$500 million after Bonn extended debt relief of about \$50 million to the Kingdom last year.

One of the subjects touched during Chancellor Kohl's visit here was possibilities of offering further debt relief. However, no specific amounts or details were discussed since the chancellor talks here focused on political issues.

The highlight of Chancellor Kohl's visit was a tripartite summit he held with His Majesty King Hussein and Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker are scheduled to hold talks with Mr. Dieter, who

will be accompanied by senior officials from the Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development.

Mr. Dieter will also hold talks with Minister of Planning Rima Khalaf and Minister of Water and Irrigation Saleh Israshat.

Jordan and Israel have sought German financing for water projects included in the peace treaty. The total cost of the projects is estimated at \$535 million, but there has not been any discussion on specific figures with any party.

The European Union (EU), of which Germany is a member, is financing feasibility studies on the proposed projects with an 11 million European currency unit (ECUs) — about \$14 million.

EU diplomats have said that while there had been no definite commitment, the European bloc, along with other potential donors, will also consider financing for the projects after the studies expected to be complete next year, formally establish their feasibility.

Germany, which contributes 28 per cent of the EU budget, has also indicated that it will consider financing the projects, which include dams and diversion structures as well as a desalination plant.

On a bilateral level, Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti said after Mr. Kohl's visit that Jordan sought debt relief from Germany and that the chancellor suggested that the issue be followed up by the related ministers from the two sides.

As such, possibilities of German debt relief for Jordan is expected to be closely discussed during Mr. Dieter's visit here. Any decision reached is expected to be announced only after the German government formally approves the move.

In per capita terms, Jordan is the largest recipient of German aid.

While in Jordan, Mr. Dieter will also address a press conference on Thursday, Aug. 24.

He will also visit Petra,

where Germany is financing projects to preserve monuments in the ancient Nabatean city.

Mr. Dieter leaves for Syria on Aug. 26, where he will stay for two days before returning home.

Opposition parties see Jordan as 'fueling' inter-Arab disputes

AMMAN (J.T.) — All 11 Jordanian opposition parties Wednesday issued a statement calling on the Arab countries to help end the sanctions imposed on Iraq and expressed surprise at what it said was Jordanian fueling of disputes among Arab countries.

The statement said that the 11 parties studied the latest developments and the flight to Jordan by the former Iraqi Minister of Industry and examined the official Jordanian position vis-a-vis this issue and decided to issue

the following four-point statement:

First: The 11 parties declare their adherence to their firm stand of demanding an immediate lifting of the embargo on the Iraqi people imposed unjustly by the United States for the past five years.

The opposition parties demand that the Arab governments take immediate steps in response to the cries of Iraqi children to end the sanctions.

Second: The change of regime in any country is not

the task of another, and what is happening in Iraq is an internal Iraqi affair and the responsibility of the Iraqi people regardless of whether we agree or disagree with its policies.

Experience has proved that interference in internal affairs is bound to fail.

Third: Though we welcome in our country any persons seeking political refuge out of brotherly feelings and in line with international laws we do not accept any violation of our hospitality or the use of our country as a

platform for calling for change of the regime in Iraq.

This is not our mission and we will never take action against any Arab country.

Fourth: While the (Jordanian) authority reaffirms its objective of working to regain pan-Arab solidarity, we are surprised to see the government fueling inter-Arab conflicts.

We believe that pan-Arab solidarity should be employed to deal with any Zionist-imperialist conspiracies, the statement concluded.

Mr. Darwazeh said the \$2 billion refinery at Jordan's only maritime outlet, the Red Sea port of Aqaba, 350 kilometers south of Amman, will primarily produce oil derivatives for export.

To do that, it will not be able to use Iraqi oil, because that would violate the U.N. sanctions.

The new refinery would have a planned capacity of 100,000 barrels a day.

The supplies, trucked across the Kingdom's eastern desert, are exempt from the U.N. trade sanctions imposed on Baghdad after the August 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

Jordan gets a discount for some of the oil and the rest

is in settlement of the \$550 million Baghdad has owed Amman since the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war.

Mr. Darwazeh said the \$2 billion refinery at Jordan's only maritime outlet, the Red Sea port of Aqaba, 350 kilometers south of Amman, will primarily produce oil derivatives for export.

To do that, it will not be able to use Iraqi oil, because that would violate the U.N. sanctions.

The new refinery would have a planned capacity of 100,000 barrels a day.

The supplies, trucked across the Kingdom's eastern desert, are exempt from the U.N. trade sanctions imposed on Baghdad after the August 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

Jordan currently has only one refinery at Zarqa, 25

kilometers north of Amman. The refinery has a capacity of between 80,000 and 100,000 barrels a day, solely for domestic consumption.

The Kingdom has launched a study to determine the feasibility of receiving Iraqi oil through a pipeline instead of the overland trucking method, which officials say is expensive and hazardous.

Mr. Darwazeh said Iraqi oil supplies have not been affected by the Kingdom's decision to grant asylum to two top-ranking Iraqi officials, who fled to Jordan Aug. 8 along with their wives, Saddam Hussein's daughters.

The official noted that a team of Iraqi experts arrived in the Kingdom last week to assist in drilling for natural gas along the eastern border with Iraq.

Taiwan: China started guided-missile tests

TAIPEI (R) — Taiwan said on Wednesday China had started a new series of missile tests off the north of the island, adding that it was mulling whether to postpone its own military exercise planned for October.

The Defence Ministry was still evaluating whether to postpone the exercise, the state-funded Central News Agency quoted Defence Minister Chiang Chung-Ling as saying.

There have been calls for a postponement to avoid a further deterioration in the already severely strained ties with China.

"The (Hua Hsing) exercise will fire no shot and fire no bullet. It is a static exercise," Mr. Chiang was quoted as saying.

Taiwan has said it would hold the Hua Hsing exercise in southern Taiwan, described as a routine military inspection, before the Oct. 10 national day.

The Defence Ministry said on Wednesday that China's latest guided-missile tests had started on Tuesday.

"Communist planes and frigates had entered the testing area on the first day (Tuesday). They conducted sea and air exercises, including guided-missile tests and

artillery firing," the ministry said in a statement.

"It conducted air-to-air, sea-to-air and sea-to-sea artillery firing exercises. In the military level, it does not constitute a direct threat," the statement said. It did not say how many missiles or shells China fired.

The closest exercise spot was 136 kilometres north of Taiwan's northern coast, the statement said.

The testing, due to last until Aug. 23, is the second series of missile tests north of Taiwan in less than a month. China's last missile tests, from July 21 to 26 in the sea north of Taiwan, and the new exercises have triggered widespread concern in Taiwan.

This exercise this time is different from the last time. They have air and sea forces' joint combat exercises in addition to guided-missile tests and artillery firing," Mr. Chiang told journalists after the rising Nationalist Party's weekly central standing committee meeting.

On Tuesday, Mr. Lien continued his protest and asked China to exercise self control, while Foreign Minister Frederick Chien said Taiwan would ask Northeast Asian countries to condemn China over its latest missile tests.

China has regarded Taiwan

as a rebel province since the end of a Chinese civil war in 1949. Both governments say they want reunification, but on different terms.

China has threatened to recover the territory if Taiwan declares independence, though the Taiwan government repeatedly says it does not play this.

Bilateral relations soured markedly after Taiwan President Lee Teng Hui's private visit to the United States in June, seen by Beijing as a move to advocate independence.

China's missile tests are seen as a warning to Taiwan to stop efforts to raise its world status, and Taipei officials have said China's aim was to create instability before Taiwan's first direct presidential elections next March, in which Mr. Lee is widely expected to run.

Prime Minister Lien Chan blasted China's latest tests last Saturday, saying they were unscrupulous and intimidatory.

On Tuesday, Mr. Lien continued his protest and asked China to exercise self control, while Foreign Minister Frederick Chien said Taiwan would ask Northeast Asian countries to condemn China over its latest missile tests.



Chinese soldiers handle long-range missiles in this recent file photo released by China News Service Aug. 15 (AFP photo)

China ejects Greenpeace anti-nuclear protesters

BEIJING (R) — China deported senior activists from the world environmental group Greenpeace Wednesday after they pulled off a brazen but brief protest in Tiananmen Square demanding that Beijing end nuclear testing.

The Greenpeace national directors from France and Russia, Penelope Komites and Sasha Knorre, were put aboard an Air France flight to Paris, airline officials said.

Four other activists detained for joining Tuesday's brief protest in Beijing's huge central square were put on an afternoon flight to Hong Kong, officials said.

Greenpeace activists interviewed by telephone before their deportation said two

contract photographers who were also detained, a German and a Swiss, faced expulsion. Their whereabouts were not immediately known.

Police and Foreign Ministry officials would not comment.

"Because we signed confessions saying this was our first action in China, they said they would not charge us but would immediately send us out of the country," Ms. Komites said.

"We had to confess that we held an illegal protest."

The protest was timed to coincide with Beijing's rumoured plans to hold a nuclear test in the next seven days and its announcement of missile tests off the east coast near Taiwan, which reported.

Officials warned on Tues-

day that China would not tolerate unauthorised protests by any of the tens of thousands of participants in the women's conference or a parallel forum of grassroots women's groups, whether Chinese or foreign.

Greenpeace International Executive Director Thilo Bode said the eight, who had entered China on tourist visas, were interrogated by police for much of Tuesday and moved to a hotel near Beijing airport late in the evening.

They remained under police guard overnight but said they were not mistreated.

Five Greenpeace leaders managed to unfurl a bright yellow protest banner in Tiananmen Square demanding that China halt its nuclear testing programme. Within seconds, police ripped the banner down and detained the five and three colleagues.

Several Greenpeace activists slipped away and flew out of China and provided television and still images of the protest to international news agencies.

A traditional magnet for dissent, Tiananmen has seen few protests since June 1989, when the army crushed student-led pro-democracy demonstrations.

Also among those deported were Ann Dingwall, a Canadian who represents Greenpeace in Britain. Bill Keller, an American who directs its U.S. West Coast office and Harald Zindler, a German, who is a longtime Greenpeace leader.



Greek Greenpeace activists wear Chinese hats with the nuclear power sign painted on the top, as they sit chained to each other in front of the Chinese embassy in Athens Wednesday to protest Beijing's plans to hold nuclear tests and its deportation of Greenpeace activists (Reuters photo)

Tuesday in Ho Chi Minh City after being found guilty of offenses related to state security.

Mr. Do was sentenced to five years jail after protesting the arrest of followers who organised an unofficial flood relief mission to the Mekong Delta and writing a letter of complaint to Communist Party General Secretary Do Muoi.

Mr. Quang and Mr. Tri will be tried by courts in the provinces of Quang Ngai and Quangnam-Danang in central Vietnam, VNA said, without giving details of dates or specific charges.

According to international human rights groups, Mr.

Tigers kill 10 Tamil dissidents

COLOMBO (Agencies) — Sri Lanka's Tamil Tiger guerrillas have executed 10 Tamils opposed to their movement, which has launched an organised campaign to weed out suspected spies, travellers from the region said Wednesday.

Several Greenpeace activists slipped away and flew out of China and provided television and still images of the protest to international news agencies.

A traditional magnet for dissent, Tiananmen has seen few protests since June 1989, when the army crushed student-led pro-democracy demonstrations.

Also among those deported were Ann Dingwall, a Canadian who represents Greenpeace in Britain. Bill Keller, an American who directs its U.S. West Coast office and Harald Zindler, a German, who is a longtime Greenpeace leader.

The LTTE's July 28 assault against the Well Oya military facility ended in disaster with the rebels losing over 300 of their men and women fighters while the army lost only two men.

The Tigers blamed their failure on a "spy" tipping off the military and since then have been continuing a witch hunt in areas under the control of the island's north.

S. Korean police break up rally over Kawangju massacre

SEOUL (AFP) — Hundreds of riot police on Wednesday tear-gassed and swooped on a crowd of 5,000 radicals rallying here to press for the prosecution of former military generals-turned presidents for the 1980 Kwangju massacre.

Several protesters were shocked by tear-gas and fainted, while others were bleeding from cuts on their heads sustained by police truncheons, an AFP photographer on the scene said. Some 100 protesters were arrested.

The violent crackdown was an evident reaction to the savage beating with iron pipes that student radicals had inflicted on a squad of riot police Tuesday which left 60 police injured, 20 of them seriously.

Tuesday's student-police clashes were triggered by activists trying to symbolically march to the border with North Korea to attend a banned rally called by the North.

Wednesday's violence erupted when 600 riot police firing tear-gas moved into a rally at a public park to prevent a planned street march to the former presidents' homes.

The students tried to retali-

ate with metal pipes and stones, then took refuge on the grounds of nearby Dongguk University and battled sporadically with police at the campus entrance.

The police had earlier said they would allow Wednesday's rally at Changchung Park, and the subsequent street march but would arrest anyone using violence.

Led by a 3,000-member group with a mission to "arrest" Mr. Chun and Mr. Roh, the students said they would try to storm the two residences following the protest rally.

The rally was jointly organised by human rights activists and students to press for the prosecution of former Presidents Chun Doo-Hwan and Roh Tae-Woo, accused of ordering the bloody crackdown of the 1980 popular uprising in the southwestern provincial city of Kwangju.

Police said some 15,000 riot policemen had been deployed in the city centre and outside the residences of Mr. Chun and Mr. Roh and at

access roads to the presidential Blue House.

Meanwhile, police launched a hunt for three student leaders, including Chung Tae-Hung of Korea University.

The police had earlier said they would allow Wednesday's rally at Changchung Park, and the subsequent street march but would arrest anyone using violence.

Led by a 3,000-member group with a mission to "arrest" Mr. Chun and Mr. Roh, the students said they would try to storm the two residences following the protest rally.

The rally was jointly organised by human rights activists and students to press for the prosecution of former Presidents Chun Doo-Hwan and Roh Tae-Woo, accused of ordering the bloody crackdown of the 1980 popular uprising in the southwestern provincial city of Kwangju.

Police said some 15,000 riot policemen had been deployed in the city centre and outside the residences of Mr. Chun and Mr. Roh and at

access roads to the presidential Blue House.

Meanwhile, police launched a hunt for three student leaders, including Chung Tae-Hung of Korea University.

The police had earlier said they would allow Wednesday's rally at Changchung Park, and the subsequent street march but would arrest anyone using violence.

Led by a 3,000-member group with a mission to "arrest" Mr. Chun and Mr. Roh, the students said they would try to storm the two residences following the protest rally.

The rally was jointly organised by human rights activists and students to press for the prosecution of former Presidents Chun Doo-Hwan and Roh Tae-Woo, accused of ordering the bloody crackdown of the 1980 popular uprising in the southwestern provincial city of Kwangju.

Police said some 15,000 riot policemen had been deployed in the city centre and outside the residences of Mr. Chun and Mr. Roh and at

access roads to the presidential Blue House.

Meanwhile, police launched a hunt for three student leaders, including Chung Tae-Hung of Korea University.

The police had earlier said they would allow Wednesday's rally at Changchung Park, and the subsequent street march but would arrest anyone using violence.

Led by a 3,000-member group with a mission to "arrest" Mr. Chun and Mr. Roh, the students said they would try to storm the two residences following the protest rally.

The rally was jointly organised by human rights activists and students to press for the prosecution of former Presidents Chun Doo-Hwan and Roh Tae-Woo, accused of ordering the bloody crackdown of the 1980 popular uprising in the southwestern provincial city of Kwangju.

Police said some 15,000 riot policemen had been deployed in the city centre and outside the residences of Mr. Chun and Mr. Roh and at

access roads to the presidential Blue House.

Meanwhile, police launched a hunt for three student leaders, including Chung Tae-Hung of Korea University.

The police had earlier said they would allow Wednesday's rally at Changchung Park, and the subsequent street march but would arrest anyone using violence.

Led by a 3,000-member group with a mission to "arrest" Mr. Chun and Mr. Roh, the students said they would try to storm the two residences following the protest rally.

The rally was jointly organised by human rights activists and students to press for the prosecution of former Presidents Chun Doo-Hwan and Roh Tae-Woo, accused of ordering the bloody crackdown of the 1980 popular uprising in the southwestern provincial city of Kwangju.

Police said some 15,000 riot policemen had been deployed in the city centre and outside the residences of Mr. Chun and Mr. Roh and at

access roads to the presidential Blue House.

Meanwhile, police launched a hunt for three student leaders, including Chung Tae-Hung of Korea University.

The police had earlier said they would allow Wednesday's rally at Changchung Park, and the subsequent street march but would arrest anyone using violence.

Led by a 3,000-member group with a mission to "arrest" Mr. Chun and Mr. Roh, the students said they would try to storm the two residences following the protest rally.

The rally was jointly organised by human rights activists and students to press for the prosecution of former Presidents Chun Doo-Hwan and Roh Tae-Woo, accused of ordering the bloody crackdown of the 1980 popular uprising in the southwestern provincial city of Kwangju.

Police said some 15,000 riot policemen had been deployed in the city centre and outside the residences of Mr. Chun and Mr. Roh and at

access roads to the presidential Blue House.

Meanwhile, police launched a hunt for three student leaders, including Chung Tae-Hung of Korea University.

The police had earlier said they would allow Wednesday's rally at Changchung Park, and the subsequent street march but would arrest anyone using violence.

Led by a 3,000-member group with a mission to "arrest" Mr. Chun and Mr. Roh, the students said they would try to storm the two residences following the protest rally.

The rally was jointly organised by human rights activists and students to press for the prosecution of former Presidents Chun Doo-Hwan and Roh Tae-Woo, accused of ordering the bloody crackdown of the 1980 popular uprising in the southwestern provincial city of Kwangju.

Police said some 15,000 riot policemen had been deployed in the city centre and outside the residences of Mr. Chun and Mr. Roh and at

access roads to the presidential Blue House.

Meanwhile, police launched a hunt for three student leaders, including Chung Tae-Hung of Korea University.

The police had earlier said they would allow Wednesday's rally at Changchung Park, and the subsequent street march but would arrest anyone using violence.

Led by a 3,000-member group with a mission to "arrest" Mr. Chun and Mr. Roh, the students said they would try to storm the two residences following the protest rally.

The rally was jointly organised by human rights activists and students to press for the prosecution of former Presidents Chun Doo-Hwan and Roh Tae-Woo, accused of ordering the bloody crackdown of the 1980 popular uprising in the southwestern provincial city of Kwangju.

Police said some 15,000 riot policemen had been deployed in the city centre and outside the residences of Mr. Chun and Mr. Roh and at

access roads to the presidential Blue House.

Meanwhile, police launched a hunt for three student leaders, including Chung Tae-Hung of Korea University.

The police had earlier said they would allow Wednesday's rally at Changchung Park, and the subsequent street march but would arrest anyone using violence.

Led by a 3,000-member group with a mission to "arrest" Mr. Chun and Mr. Roh, the students said they would try to storm the two residences following the protest rally.

The rally was jointly organised by human rights activists and students to press for the prosecution of former Presidents Chun Doo-Hwan and Roh Tae-Woo, accused of ordering the bloody crackdown of the 1980 popular uprising in the southwestern provincial city of Kwangju.

Police said some 15,000 riot policemen had been deployed in the city centre and outside the residences of Mr. Chun and Mr. Roh and at

access roads to the presidential Blue House.

Meanwhile, police launched a hunt for three student leaders, including Chung Tae-Hung of Korea University.

The police had earlier said they would allow Wednesday's rally at Changchung Park, and the subsequent street march but would arrest anyone using violence.

Led by a 3,000-member group with a mission to "arrest" Mr. Chun and Mr. Roh, the students said they would try to storm the two residences following the protest rally.

World News



ROUND-THE-WORLD-RECORD: Air France personnel stand around the Concorde attempting to beat the round-the-world speed record during a stopover in Toulouse, where the supersonic plane was originally built. The

plane, which left New York at 15.53 GMT Tuesday, will make five more stopovers before its late Wednesday arrival in New York. The flight was expected to take 33 hours and 44 minutes (AFP photo)

Judge in Simpson trial may withdraw

LOS ANGELES (R) — After seven months of testimony, the judge in the O.J. Simpson murder trial now faces his most controversial decision yet — whether to withdraw from the case and possibly derail it altogether.

In a bizarre turn of events that plunged the so-called "trial of the century" into turmoil on Tuesday, Prosecutor Marcia Clark somberly asked Judge Lance Ito to remove himself from the case and turn it over to another jurist.

At issue, Ms. Clark contended, was whether Mr. Ito could rule impartially on matters related to detective Mark Fuhrman, a controversial prosecution witness, after learning he had made disparaging remarks about the judge's police-captain wife.

Ms. Clark said Ito's complete withdrawal was "the only road to take" because of the potential conflict of interest, but defense attorneys accused prosecutors of trying to force a mistrial and said they would fight to keep Mr. Ito on the case.

Mr. Ito ordered both sides to submit written arguments and said he would make a decision on Wednesday. If he steps aside, it would force a long delay and could put the entire trial at risk. legal analysts say.

The focus of the day's emotional session was a series of audiotapes in which Mr. Fuhrman allegedly derided blacks as "niggers," spoke of police planting evidence and made derogatory references about Mr. Ito's wife, Captain Margaret York, the highest-ranking woman in the Los Angeles Police Department.

Mr. Fuhrman, who made the comments in taped interviews conducted over the past 10 years with a North Carolina-based screenwriter, is the detective who found a bloody glove at Mr. Simpson's estate the morning after the June 12, 1994, murders of the former American football star's wife and her friend.

Mr. Simpson's attorneys have accused Mr. Fuhrman of being a racist who framed the black celebrity, but in earlier trial testimony, he denied planting the glove and said he had not used the racial slur "nigger" anytime in the past decade.

The defense team contends that Mr. Fuhrman committed perjury and they want to play the tapes for the mostly black jury.

With jurors absent from the courtroom, Mr. Ito ruled that another jurist, Judge John Reid, would make the critical decision on the admissibility of the tapes and whether the judge's wife might be called by the prosecution to rebut Mr. Fuhrman's taped remarks.

"I love my wife dearly and I am wounded by criticism of her," Mr. Ito said, his voice choked with emotion, as millions of T.V. viewers looked on. He said he wanted to avoid even the appearance of unfairness.

While some analysts said Mr. Ito faces a tough decision, Loyola Law School Professor Stan Goldman said it was "silly" for him to even consider bowing out.

Chechen team returns unexpectedly to peace talks

MOSCOW (R) — Chechenya's chief separatist negotiator returned unexpectedly to the capital Grozny Wednesday calling for peace talks to resume with Russia, despite straws over disarming the rebel forces.

ITAR-TASS news agency said Khozhakhmed Yerkhanov had come back to Grozny even though he had called for a two-day break in talks on Tuesday after Russia threatened to crack down on the separatists if they did not disarm immediately.

Some Chechen rebels were due to start disarming later Wednesday but there was no immediate confirmation that the disarmament was going ahead.

"I hope the process of talks will continue despite all obstacles," Mr. Yerkhanov said.

He refused to say whether he had carried out plans to consult rebel leader Dzhokhar Dudayev over the latest moves.

Ms. Clark said Ito planned to get

in touch with Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin and chief Russian negotiator Vyacheslav Mikhailov, who are in Moscow, but gave no details of what they would discuss.

The Russian government threatened tough measures against the separatists Monday after they failed to accept Moscow's terms on how to carry out a military deal signed July 30.

The government ultimatum was followed Tuesday by a strongly-worded statement from President Boris Yeltsin. He threatened to resort to force to disarm the rebels, raising fears of a flare-up in fighting which began eight months ago.

"If there is no answer to the statement by the Russian government, or if there is an answer which does not satisfy us, then we will take special, extraordinary and energetic measures, including military measures," Mr. Yeltsin said Tuesday.

Mr. Romanov made clear on Tuesday he was reluctant to allow the renewal of hostilities, despite all the difficulties at talks.

Chechen chief of staff

Armenia's leading opposition party goes underground

YEREVAN, Armenia (AP) — Armenia's main opposition party, Dashnak, has gone back underground to avoid political persecution by the government.

In January, the suspended party's registration, accusing several of its members of terrorism. The party was barred from taking part in the July 4 parliamentary elections.

The party's leaders issued a statement carried by local news agencies Monday saying

they were "forced to end our efforts to operate legally" because of government persecution.

In January, the suspended party's registration, accusing several of its members of terrorism. The party was barred from taking part in the July 4 parliamentary elections.

The arrest of party leader Vagan Oganesyan July 29 spurred Dashnak to decide to go underground, the state-

ment said.

Mr. Oganesyan and several other activists were arrested on suspicion of planning attacks on leading politicians. Mr. Oganesyan faces charges of high treason and a possible death sentence.

Other party members have been detained in the past several months on charges of terrorism, drug dealing and subversive activities.

Dashnak has spent most of its political life underground.

THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA'S CELEBRATIONS OF INDEPENDENCE DAY

HANI AL ASHI in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan offers heart-felt congratulations to His Excellency the Ambassador of Indonesia, the embassy staff and all the Indonesian people, wishing them continued progress and prosperity on the occasion of Indonesia's Independence Day which falls on Aug. 17.

Congratulations to the Indonesian people.

President of Indonesian Republic SUHARTO

dpi
Dharma Prima Internasional
(House of Indonesian Products - Jordan)

Regional Office:
1st Floor Abdulla Center, 11 AAB Str., Shmeisani,
P.O.Box 5194 Amman 11183 - H.E. of Jordan
Tel. (962-6) 696781, Fax. (962-6) 696789, Telex. 21129

Head Office:
8th Floor Sudirman Tower, JL. Jend. Sudirman
Kav. 60, Jakarta 12190 - Indonesia, P.O.Box 4569
Tel. (62-21) 5228548, Fax. (62-21) 5228627, Telex. 60860

CONGRATULATE

His Excellency the President, Government and the People of the Republic of Indonesia on the Occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Proclamation of Independence of the Republic of Indonesia, sincerely wishing them all more happiness, peace, prosperity and success.

Kashmir hostages appear to be safe

SRINAGAR, India (AP) — Kashmiri separatists who headed a Norwegian hostage do not appear to have carried out a threat to kill four other Western captives, an Indian official said Wednesday.

The Al Faran militants contacted Indian negotiators again on Wednesday to discuss the situation, the official said, indicating that the door to a settlement may still be open.

"In the absence of any adverse report, we presume the four hostages are still safe," said the official, Kulbhushan Jandial, the director of information in Jammu-Kashmir state.

On Sunday, authorities found the beheaded body of the fifth hostage, Norwegian Hans Christian Ostro, and a note from Al Faran threatening to kill the four other captives in two days.

Mr. Jandial's news conference was the first official comment indicating that Al Faran had not carried out its threat.

"This development is significant," said Mr. Jandial, who refused to give details on

the negotiation Wednesday or the militants' demand that India free 15 of their jailed comrades.

News reports said India was offering to trade some imprisoned militants for the safe release of the hostages, but not the guerrilla commanders that the kidnappers had demanded.

But an autopsy on Mr. Ostro's remains showed that he had been in good health when he was killed.

"We hope its bankruptcy hasn't hurt our cause," said M.A. Dar, a businessman.

Mr. Dar, who had left his home to buy medicine for his daughter at a local pharmacy, said he supported the strike and would immediately return home and stay there all day.

In a separate interview, Omar Farooq, chairman of the all-party Freedom Movement, condemned Al Faran and urged the world to associate it with Kashmir's struggle for independence.

"Al Faran has given a terrorist reputation to our movement and that's the last thing we want," Mr. Farooq said at his home.

The all-party Freedom Movement has repeatedly criticised Al Faran since it claimed responsibility for the kidnappings.

Many people were seen walking down streets of Srinagar on Wednesday, riding



Recent photos of Sao Tome President Miguel Trovoada (L) and Prime Minister Carlos Graca



bearing in mind the cooperation links between Angola and Sao Tome, his government is entirely willing to grant asylum to Miguel Trovoada and Carlos Graca if it is deemed necessary," Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos' office said in a statement.

Don Santos' made his remarks in Brazil where he is on a five-day visit.

Sao Tome rebels want poll in 3 months

SAO TOME (R) — Military coup leaders in the African twin-island state of Sao Tome and Principe asked political parties Wednesday to join a transitional government to prepare for general elections in three months.

A military official told reporters the coup leaders made the suggestion in a meeting with leaders of the three main political parties, including those of the ousted president and prime minister.

The response of the Party of Democratic Action of deposed President Miguel Trovoada, the Movement for the Freedom of Sao Tome and Principe of deposed Prime Minister Carlos Graca and the Party of Democratic Convergence were not immediately known.

Mr. Trovoada and Mr. Graca remained in detention Wednesday, 24 hours after rebel soldiers seized Sao Tome's media, telecommunications and airport in a bloodless coup d'etat.

A five-man commission of young army officers took control of Sao Tome in protest at the country's extreme poverty.

On Tuesday, the self-styled leader of the commission, Lieutenant Manuel Quintas de Almeida, told Reuters: "We want to recover the dignity of the country and contribute to the elimination of the problems which persist in the country."

Sao Tome is a former Portuguese colony situated 300 kilometres off the coast of Gabon, with a population of 130,000.

Portuguese TSF Radio quoted coup leaders as saying that both Trovoada and Graca had rejected an offer from the coup leaders to join their self-styled National Salvation Council because they were representatives of a legitimately-elected government.

Portuguese President Mario Soares has offered political asylum to Mr. Trovoada.

Angola said it was prepared to offer political asylum to the ousted leaders of Sao Tome and Principe.

"The president said that

Portugal has condemned the coup.

LUSA quoted a source in the president's office as saying late Tuesday that Soares had told coup leaders by telephone that Portugal would accept Mr. Trovoada.

Angola said it was prepared to offer political asylum to the ousted leaders of Sao Tome and Principe.

"The president said that

Portugal has condemned the coup.

LUSA quoted a source in the president's office as saying late Tuesday that Soares had told coup leaders by telephone that Portugal would accept Mr. Trovoada.

Angola said it was prepared to offer political asylum to the ousted leaders of Sao Tome and Principe.

"The president said that

Portugal has condemned the coup.

LUSA quoted a source in the president's office as saying late Tuesday that Soares had told coup leaders by telephone that Portugal would accept Mr. Trovoada.

Angola said it was prepared to offer political asylum to the ousted leaders of Sao Tome and Principe.

"The president said that

Portugal has condemned the coup.

LUSA quoted a source in the president's office as saying late Tuesday that Soares had told coup leaders by telephone that Portugal would accept Mr. Trovoada.

Angola said it was prepared to offer political asylum to the ousted leaders of Sao Tome and Principe.

"The president said that

Portugal has condemned the coup.

LUSA quoted a source in the president's office as saying late Tuesday that Soares had told coup leaders by telephone that Portugal would accept Mr. Trovoada.

Angola said it was prepared to offer political asylum to the ousted leaders of Sao Tome and Principe.

"The president said that

Portugal has condemned the coup.

LUSA quoted a source in the president's office as saying late Tuesday that Soares had told coup leaders by telephone that Portugal would accept Mr. Trovoada.

Angola said it was prepared to offer political asylum to the ousted leaders of Sao Tome and Principe.

"The president said that

Portugal has condemned the coup.

LUSA quoted a source in the president's office as saying late Tuesday that Soares had told coup leaders by telephone that Portugal would accept Mr. Trovoada.

Angola said it was prepared to offer political asylum to the ousted leaders of Sao Tome and Principe.

"The president said that

Portugal has condemned the coup.

LUSA quoted a source in the president's office as saying late Tuesday that Soares had told coup leaders by telephone that Portugal would accept Mr. Trovoada.

Angola said it was prepared to offer political asylum to the ousted leaders of Sao Tome and Principe.

"The president said that

Portugal has condemned the coup.

LUSA quoted a source in the president's office as saying late Tuesday that Soares had told coup leaders by telephone that Portugal would accept Mr. Trovoada.

Angola said it was prepared to offer political asylum to the ousted leaders of Sao Tome and Principe.

"The president said that

Portugal has condemned the coup.

LUSA quoted a source in the president's office as saying late Tuesday that Soares had told coup leaders by telephone that Portugal would accept Mr. Trovoada.

Angola said it was prepared to offer political asylum to the ousted leaders of Sao Tome and Principe.

"The president said that

Portugal has condemned the coup.

LUSA quoted a source in the president's office as saying late Tuesday that Soares had told coup leaders by telephone that Portugal would accept Mr. Trovoada.

Angola said it was prepared to offer political asylum to the ousted leaders of Sao Tome and Principe.

"The president said that

Portugal has condemned the coup.

LUSA quoted a source in the president's office as saying late Tuesday that Soares had told coup leaders by telephone that Portugal would accept Mr. Trovoada.

Angola said it was prepared to offer political asylum to the ousted leaders of Sao Tome and Principe.

On quality street

By Jean-Claude Elias

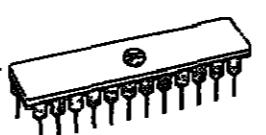
A few months ago, leaving the Royal Cultural Centre at the end of a recital, I had an interesting chat with one of Jordan's leading pianists. We talked mainly about electronic synthesizers — those amazing, affordable piano-like keyboards that can reproduce hundreds of sounds.

My argument, maybe because of a weakness for electronics which I cannot fight, was that synthesizers are making music more popular than ever, allowing a greater number of music lovers to become performers. Definitely a good thing, I said. The pianist's point of view, however, was that this situation doesn't make music any better. In her own words: "With synthesizers, we have more of a bad thing!"

Thinking it over today, and without entering the philosophical debate of what is good and what is bad, I believe she was right. Easy access to inexpensive equipment does nothing but contribute to letting more people make more noise. Unless, of course, proper training and education is given at the same time. A strange parallel can be drawn between synthesizers and PCs (personal computers).

The fact that everybody, virtually, has access to or uses PCs today doesn't mean that everybody has mastered the art (or science if one wishes) of computing. The widespread usage of machines per se hasn't improved the standard of data processing or

chip talk



informatics. To be true, the art has improved but certainly not in direct proportion to the number of PCs in use worldwide.

What we have here is a typical case of quality versus quantity. When a system becomes very popular or follows a vulgarisation process, quality often is sacrificed to quantity. The phenomenon is also obvious with software. I hear computer users brag about the impressive number of programmes they have acquired. Rarely do I hear them talk about one programme in depth or in detail. Even after using Windows for years many people ignore some of its basics.

For most of what we do, in our daily work more particularly, the benefit is greater if we concentrate on quality. There's vital but fine line between sloppy, amateurish work and quality one. It's simply called professionalism.

Modern living week

By Samer Ghaleb Bagaeen

Today, this column brings you an exclusive interview with the newly appointed director of the Foundation for Creative Environments.

- Dear sir, thank you very much for being with us today.

- The pleasure is all mine.

- The foundation of which you have been appointed director has been charged with the task of sorting out priorities for action within our city such as placing things like new traffic lights where they are genuinely needed. Could you tell us something about the set of criteria that you will adopt?

- This is certainly a very good question. I will have to get back to you on this one.

- Many international television channels have been broadcasting a series of programmes on the changes taking place in the world of art, design and technology. Would you personally campaign to get such educational programmes aired on our local channels?

- This is certainly a very good question. I will have to get back to you on this one.

- As we do every summer, we are witnessing a tremendous influx of visitors and tourists, their cars and what have you. And as we do every summer, we are also witnessing the simultaneous stretching to the limits of services such as telephones and water. What are your plans to reduce the pressure on such public services, to reduce the intolerable traffic jams on our streets that accompany such an influx, and to help minimise the disrupting influence of such an influx on the daily lives of our citizens?

- This is certainly a very good question. I will have to get back to you on this one.

- Could you please tell us why the cellular phones

on offer on the market are being sold here at nearly seven times their average price say, for example, in the United Kingdom?

- This is certainly a very good question. I will have to get back to you on this one.

- With every passing day, more and more new apartments are being placed on the market for sale at ever higher prices. How would you explain this apparently dismal failure of the theory of supply and demand as regarding prices?

- This is certainly a very good question. I will have to get back to you on this one.

- There have appeared of late advertisements in the local press for houses being on offer for \$1 million

— with the digits highlighted in bold letters. Would you consider hiring a specialist in order to find out what kind of person would buy such a house?

- This is certainly a very good question. I will have to get back to you on this one.

- Europeans travel to places such as India, Java and Tibet and take back ideas and elements of the lifestyle with them to Europe. Why do we look towards the West for inspiration while people in the West obviously look towards the East?

- This is certainly a very good question. I will have to get back to you on this one.

- Life with the internet is the next big thing; any chance of all of us here ever getting on the net, so to speak?

- This is certainly a very good question. I will have to get back to you on this one.

- Dear sir, (hem, hem) thank you for your being with us here today. The interview has been very insightful.

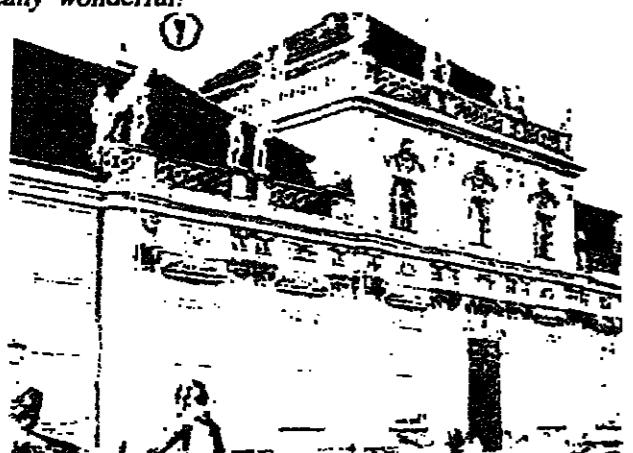
- Thank you.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

By Mohammad A. Shuaqir

BRUSH UP YOUR MEMORY

Are you interested in travel? If so identify these famous places. Getting to know all of them, your memory and impression of things prove to be fantastically wonderful!



①



③

ASTOUNDING FACTS

The smallest known starfish is found deep in the Mediterranean, which is not known to exceed a diameter of 0.78 inches.

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

* In 1977 there were an estimated 41,000,000 dogs in the United States, compared to 5,300,000 in the U.K.

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

* The emperor penguin of the Antarctic can reach a depth of 870 feet and remain submerged for as long as 18 minutes.

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

* Vivian "Sailor Joe" Simmons, a Canadian tattoo artist, had 4,831 tattoos on his body. He died in Toronto on Dec. 22, 1965, aged 77.

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

LET'S CHAT IN ARABIC

— My family speaks Arabic.

Ossrati tatakalism al-Arabiya. Ebni yadross at-tibb.

— My son learns medicine. Ammi yohib al-mooseeqa.

— My uncle likes music. Okhti tal'ab al-karatey.

— My sister plays karate. Abee ya'allif kutuban.

— My father writes books. Ommi tohib al-azhaar.

— My mother likes flowers. My brother hates liars. Abi yakrah al-kath'habeen.

— My aunt adores jewellery. Ammati ta'bod al-unjaw'harat.

— My friend practises boxing and wrestling. Sadeeqi yumaress al-mulakama wal-musaa'ra'a.

— I tell funny jokes! Ana aqool nikat mud'hik!

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

TIME FOR FUN

* P.E. TEACHER: "Allison, you're hopeless at sports. You'll never come first in anything."

ALLISON: "I'm first everyday in the dinner queue, Miss!"

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

* "Now Frank," said the weary maths teacher, "if you had \$15 in one pocket and \$15 in another pocket, what would you have?"

"Some else's trousers on!"

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

* What must you pay when you go to school? "Attention."

BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

1. Why is Boxing Day so called?

2. Name the THREE WISE MEN?

3. Whose signature appears on English banknotes?

4. Aug. 14, 1945, was given what name?

5. Which of the three Brontë sisters wrote *Wuthering Heights*?

6. What does the word "Carol" mean?

7. Which country drinks most coffee per person:

(a) Sweden (b) France (c) United States?

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday, Aug. 17

1:30 Iris-The Happy Professor

1:40 Noddy

2:00 Fireman Sam

2:15 My Secret Identity

2:30 N.B.A.

3:00 Dead Men's Tales

3:30 Take Your Pick

4:00 I Witness Video

5:00 Children's programme Rahan

5:30 Varieties And Game Show

7:00 Le Journal

7:15 Magazine — Portrait D'Alain Cavalier

7:30 News Headlines

7:35 National Geographic

8:30 The Album Show

9:15 Murder She Wrote

10:00 News In English

10:25 Movie — L'addition — The Bill

Starring: Richard Berry & Victoria Abril

12:00 Shogun — Part Eight

Friday, Aug. 18

10:25 Movie — Young Ivanhoe

Starring: Stacy Keach & Margot Kidder

11:50 Out On A Limb

1:15 Beethoven

1:30 Why I didn't Think Of That

2:00 White Fang

2:30 Movie — Black Beard's Ghost

3:00 The Powers That Be

Saturday, Aug. 19

2:00 Back To The Future

2:30 Harry And The Hendersons

3:00 Road To Avonlea

4:00 Families

5:00 Children's Programme Doug

5:30 Documentary — Palettes

6:00 Place En Garde A Vue

7:00 Le Journal

7:15 Magazine — Faut

8:00 Coach

8:30 Jordan Today

9:15 Scoop

10:00 News In English

8:00 Major Dad

8:30 The Bold And The Beautiful

9:15 Dr. Quinn-Medicine Woman

10:00 News In English

10:25 Movie — Ride With The Wind

11:50 Noble House (Best Seller)

Part I.

Sunday, Aug. 20

2:00 The Flintstones

2:30 The Mighty Jungle

3:00 Pugwall's Summer Farthing Wood

3:30 Sky Trackers

3:30 Hey Dad!

4:00 Families

5:00 Children's Programme Doug

5:30 Reportage — Envoy Special

7:00 Le Journal

7:15 Ushusia: Le Magazine De L'Extreme

7:30 News Headlines

7:35 Cinema, Cinema

8:00 Nurses

8:30 The Bold And The Beautiful

9:15 Strathblair

10:00 News In English

10:25 Counterstrike

11:30 The Hidden Room

12:00 Keeping Up Appearances

Monday, Aug. 21

2:00 The Animals Of Farthing Wood

Grateful Dead leader mourned at private funeral



Thousands of Grateful Dead fans gather at a memorial after erected to the memory of deceased Grateful Dead leader Jerry Garcia, during a public memorial service in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park, August 13 (Reuter Photo)

SAN FRANCISCO (R)
— Family, friends and band members attended a private funeral on Friday for Jerry Garcia, leader of the Grateful Dead rock band who died at a drug treatment centre last week.

The funeral was held under tight security at St. Stephen's episcopal church in Belvedere, a picturesque town that looks onto San Francisco bay, television and radio reports said.

One of the Grateful Dead's most popular songs is called 'Saint Stephen'.

Singer-songwriter Bob Dylan, pianist Bruce Hornsby and counterculture figure Ken Kesey were among the select list of guests invited to the funeral, which also included Garcia's family and Grateful Dead band members.

An open casket contained Garcia's body wearing his trademark black t-shirt. His family has not decided whether he will be buried or cremated, according to news reports.

The band kept the place and time of the funeral

secret in advance to avoid attracting large crowds.

Garcia, 53, was found dead, of an apparent heart attack, early last Wednesday at a drug and alcohol treatment centre near San Francisco. He was reported to be struggling with a heroin problem.

He was singer, lead guitarist and inspiration of the Grateful Dead, a band born in the flower power days of the 1960s San Francisco. Three decades later, the band is revered by thousands of fans, known as 'deadheads', who have made the group one of America's most popular touring bands.

The funeral service was led by episcopal priest the Rev. Matthew Fox, who officiated at Garcia's wedding on Valentine's Day last year to his third wife, Deborah Koons, filmmaker whom he met at one of the band's concerts nearly 20 years ago.

Garcia's widow has asked that donations in memory of the rock star be sent to the Haight-Ashbury free clinic in San Francisco, which runs drug treatment programs.

A public memorial to

Garcia, who lived in Marin County, north of San Francisco, is expected to be held later.

The group's heartbroken fans have remembered Garcia in their own way this week, holding vigils in cities around the country and congregating at a makeshift shrine to Garcia in the Haight-Ashbury district of San Francisco, where Garcia once lived.

President Bill Clinton said in an interview to be aired on the cable music channel MTV on Friday that he was saddened by Garcia's death, but said it should make the musician's fans reflect on the consequences of self-destructive behaviour.

Earlier, more than 100 fans congregated at the intersection of Haight and Ashbury streets in San Francisco, cradle of the hippie movement in the 1960s, to mourn Garcia.

Five hundred people gathered in New York's Central Park on Wednesday night to remember Garcia while in Los Angeles, hundreds of Grateful Dead fans gathered in Griffith Park



Jerry Garcia

for a candlelight vigil.

Tributes to Garcia poured in from music stars like Bob Dylan and Carlos Santana and from politicians and fans such as Vermont Senator Patrick Leahy. Flags in San Francisco flew at half-staff. Born Jerome John Gar-

cia in San Francisco in 1942, Garcia dropped out of high school at 17 and worked as a salesman and music teacher in California before forming the Warlocks rock group in 1965, which became the Grateful Dead a year later.

Cyndi Lauper revives career by redoing 80s hits

By Matthew Rettenmund
Reuter

abdomen and her bravery in showing it off.

A self-described 'recovering Catholic,' Lauper jokes grimly of her youth in parochial schools. 'There's the sisters of charity, the sisters of mercy, and it just so happens that I was with the sisters of no charity and no mercy at all.'

And she has no mercy for one of her own hits that does not appear on 'Twelve Deadly Cyns' — 'The Goonies' 'R' (Good Enough).'

'I hated that ... it was terrible,' she said. She said she is also disenchanted with 'True Colours' after the song became a commercial theme. But her affection for it, its popularity, and the chord it strikes among misfits around the globe led her to revive it in concerts.

Lauper is not content just to sing. She directed the video to 'Hey Now' and for years has been one of only a handful of video artists to direct themselves.

The video for the original 'Girls Just Want To Have Fun' featured girls led pied piper-style down the streets of New York by Lauper, sporting her then-trademark orange hair. In the update, her hair is canary yellow and the girls are boys. The director playfully chose a cast of drag queens as her co-stars.

Her new CD also contains a fresh recording of the ballad 'I'm Gonna Be Strong,' which, to Lauper's surprise, became a gay anthem. She sang it at New York's 1995 gay pride parade.

In fact, she says she admires Madonna's taut



Cyndi Lauper

Of her gay fans, Lauper says, 'You always have to remember — no matter what you're told — that God loves all the flowers, even the wild ones that grow on the side of the highway.'

Her acting won her an Emmy for a guest role on NBC-TV's 'Mad About You' but she describes

singing as 'magical,' saying 'I don't censor myself. I do everything by ear.' She added, tongue firmly in cheek, 'that's called style. I believe.'

Fans sampled that style July 18 when Lauper celebrated her 42nd birthday two days early with a concert at the academy in Manhattan. The show sold

out well in advance and scalped tickets fetched upwards of \$50.

Her popularity surging abroad, Lauper welcomed the quiet she found in America. But this megastar of the '80s has to sacrifice that quiet time as her new album — and her old material — takes off again.

Janet Leigh still can't take showers

By Bob Thomas
The Associated Press
LOS ANGELES — Ordinarily the sunniest of individuals, Janet Leigh was hopping mad. Someone had faxed her a copy of a movie reference book alleging that the notorious stabbing-in-the-shower scene of *Psycho* was directed by Saul Bass and not Alfred Hitchcock.

"And it even says in the credits: 'Directed by Alfred Hitchcock (and Saul Bass)'," she ranted. "I was in the shower I was there every day in every shot Bass never directed me."

The offending volume is John Hallowell's widely respected *Film Guide*. Aside from her own testimony, Leigh sought corroboration from Hitchcock's daughter, Patricia, and *Psycho* cameraman Hilton Green, who produced the film's three sequels. Bass, the famed maker of film titles is credited as title designer and pictorial consultant for the film.

Leigh might be termed keeper of the *Psycho* flame. Evidence can be found in her new book, *Psycho: Behind The Scenes Of The Classic Thriller* (Harmony Books, \$22). It tells all you need to know about the movie, from the woman who starred in arguably the most famous horror scene in movie history.

The actress talked about her literary career at the home she has long shared with businessman-husband Bob Brandt high atop the Hollywood Hills. Just turned 68, she retains the starlet figure and glamour of her MGM years.

After the pique of the misplaced shower-scene credit had passed, she resumed her sunshiny attitude.

She explained that the shower scene contains between 71 and 78 short takes — "no one knows for sure," filming it for seven days was no great challenge for her, except for the 20 seconds or so of total horror as her character was being stabbed to death. No, she wasn't nude. She wore a flesh-coloured bodysuit in keeping with the movie's morality of 1960.

Is it true about her bathing habits?

"That I don't take showers? Yeah," she confessed. "It's not a hype; it's not something that I thought good for publicity. Honest to gosh, it's true."

The reason is really not the filming of it. As you know, that's broken up in short takes, before I saw the finished film. I had never realized how vulnerable you are in the shower. You're exposed, defenceless, you can't hear because of the running water. I don't like that situation. It had never dawned on me before."

She added that she didn't have nightmares about it, nor did she feel the need to consult a shrink. She prefers the bathtub, "where I can see the door, the water's not running, so I can hear everything. I guess I'm just a chicken at heart."

Psycho (the book) is part of a new career for Janet Leigh, who is realistic enough to know that Hollywood supplies little

work for a woman her age. Ten years ago, she produced an autobiography, *There Really Was A Hollywood*. This fall she'll have another book on the stands, a three-generation novel.

In 1946, Jeanette Helen Morrison was a student at College of the Pacific in Stockton, California, when she visited her parents at a ski lodge where they were working. Her father took her photo, which actress Norma Shearer saw on a ski trip. The star sent it to Lew Wasserman, head of the talent agency MCA.

As Janet Leigh, she became a star in her first film, appearing opposite Van Johnson in *The Romance Of Rosy Ridge*. Her reward: a new contract at \$150 a week. For the next eight years, she starred opposite MGM's top male stars.

"I couldn't have been treated better," Leigh said, contradicting those who complain about the big studio system. "First of all, they let me do loan-outs. True, they were getting more than my salary for loaning me out."

"But they also took a chance on me and paid me when I didn't earn a dime. They could have made an investment in me, and I could have turned out to be zip. I was compensated more than I ever thought I would be."

"Today, the kids like Jamie (Lee Curtis, her daughter) have to pay for their own lessons. I got them free: diction, singing, dancing. Everything I needed to learn, they taught me."

Rock stars flock to Mandela's new South Africa

By Melanie Cheary
Reuter

most pop and rock groups shunned the white-ruled republic.

JOHANNESBURG — South Africa is back on the world's pop music map as superstars fly in to play and sing for fans who missed out during the country's decades of isolation over its apartheid racial policies.

For more than 20 years South Africa struggled under economic sanctions, foreign companies moved out, sports teams refused to play South Africans and

banned groups and singers bat-

tered the country's psyche during the apartheid era. "Before, you used to hear of guys your age going to rock concerts, or you read about it in magazines. It's fantastic that we can go now too," said Timothy Van Noort, a 21-year-old student.

Since the elections, pop culture has taken off. Posters promoting rock concerts decorate walls and fences alongside the more familiar street symbols of razor wire, burglar alarms and warnings that

rock concerts — taken for granted by European and American youth — was by journeying to neighbouring states.

"Now, all everyone can talk about is who is coming to play in the country next," said Phillip Rapagadi, 16.

Young South Africans have seen rock idols like

Sting, Phil Collins, Roxette and Bryan Adams perform, as well as rock groups Crowded House, Depeche Mode and Midnight Oil.

And in a Johannesburg stadium where political rallies used to take place, The Rolling Stones gave a sellout concert last spring.

"They were unbelievable. I dreamed of going to a Stones concert. I can't believe I finally have," said 22-year-old Kirsten Jensen.

Recently two members of British cult band The Mission performed in a Johannesburg nightclub.

"Tickets were gone within about an hour of the performance being

advertised," said ticket vendor Maria Steenkamp.

Singer Joan Armatrading and groups Wet Wet and Bon Jovi also prompted rushes for tickets. frantic scrambling and overnight queuing shows how hungry South Africans are for international entertainment, said student John Pybus, 24.

The British heavy metal band Iron Maiden is due in October and Italian tenor Luciano Pavarotti in January.

Some of the bands com-

In 'goitre land' victims too poor to seek medical help

By Nadeem Qadir
Agence France Presse
BUKSHIGANJ, Bang-



Bangladesh — Swelling of the thyroid gland (goitre) is a visible sign of iodine deficiency. Iodine helps produce thyroxine in the thyroid gland for overall physical development, growth and body maintenance.

One of world's leading ebola experts claims possible cure

By Beth Duff-Brown
The Associated Press

KINSHASA, Zaire — The note to the doctor simply reads, "this post-card comes to you with gratitude." It is signed by seven people.

They are the last seven survivors of the ghoulish ebola virus that claimed 233 lives and sent shivers of fear around the world. By the end of the month, the World Health Organisation (WHO) expects to declare the epidemic over.

These final victims lived, according to Zairian doctors, due to an experimental treatment in which they were given transfusions of blood from previous ebola survivors, slowly bringing down the fever that had forced blood to ooze through the eyes and pores of others more seriously stricken.

"Now we think that we have some proof that this transfusion was effective because we have seven successful cases of ebola fever who survived," said Dr. Jean-Jacques Muyembe Tamfum, a leading virologist who helped to identify the ebola virus 19 years ago.

WHO's African headquarters in neighbouring Congo last week issued a statement saying it was too early to call the treatment a cure.

"We know that other sick people who were not subject to this treatment recovered their health through other methods," said Barakanfutie Deog-

ladesh — So many goitre sufferers live in this iodine-deficient village that the area has been dubbed goitre land. When word spread that outsiders, "possibly doctors," had arrived to ex-

amine the sufferers' enlarged thyroid glands, some 50 desperate, impoverished patients jammed the quarters where the AFP team covering the mission was staying, hoping to receive free treatment.

"The people here and in nearby districts are too poor to seek medical treatment, and some who do cannot bear the minimum 350 taka (\$8.75) per month cost of a sustained nine-month treatment," said Mohammad Shamsul Huq, the chief medical officer here.

He cited a severe shortage of iodine in the water and the soil as the cause of the extraordinary number of goitre sufferers in the Mymensingh, Jamalpur, Sherpur, Kurigram and Lalmonirhat districts.

Experts blame the loss of iodine from the soil and water on the region's

vulnerability to floods and heavy rains, which wash away the natural element.

The villagers here are still coping with floods from May through July that left at least 127 people dead nationwide and caused widespread destruction of crops and property.

Many residents of this remote area in northern Bangladesh are aware that their condition is caused by an iodine deficiency, but they cannot afford to buy iodised salt.

The government ordered in 1989 that all salt be iodised, but salt lacking the essential element — of which the human body requires at least 150 micrograms a day — is cheaper.

And shopkeepers have alleged that many salt packets are falsely labeled as iodised.

Iodine helps produce thyroxin in the thyroid gland for overall physical development, growth and body maintenance. An iodine deficiency causes the thyroid to swell as a coping mechanism, doctors say.

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) says about 70 percent of Bangladesh's 110 million people suffer from iodine deficiency-related problems, and 36 million sufferers have goitres. However, only 8.8 percent of the goitres are visible.

Goitres, which UNICEF says are a "physical deformation or disability" rather than a disease, can cause respiratory problems, nervous disabilities, deafness and mental impairment.

An estimated 6.2 million Bangladeshis are

mentally handicapped to varying degrees because of iodine deficiencies, the organisation said.

Sufferers cannot work properly, costing Bangladesh some \$25 million annually in lost productivity, UNICEF added.

Tohar Sheikh 76, looked weak and helpless as he sought treatment to get rid of the large tumour-like growth on his throat.

"I was struck with a goitre 12 years ago and got some relief after a UNICEF team gave me an injection ... but then it grew again," he said.

Ten-year-old Tasirin was depressed after she discovered the abnormal growth of her thyroid, and her family is convinced she will have a goitre for the rest of her life.

Some residents said

they had not known that iodine prevented goitres,

while several said they were too poor to buy a packet of iodised salt, which costs taka 11 (30 cents).

Muhammad Azizur Rahman, secretary of a local village council, said the villagers got some relief after UNICEF opened a medical camp in the mid-1980s, but since then there had been no supplies or treatment.

"How can you expect these people to buy iodised salt when they have difficulty in getting two square meals a day?" he said, adding that they used less costly non-iodised salt.

Huq said the area's wealthier inhabitants were free from the disease and the only answer was sustained government-sponsored treatment.

However, "there is no

medicine in stock now to treat goitre patients."

Witch-hunting among British doctors

LONDON (AFP) — Britain's National Health Service (NHS), beset by patient complaints, long hospital queues, dwindling funds and monumental blunders, has appealed to its doctors to blow the whistle on incompetent colleagues.

Health Secretary Stephen Dorrell was loath to call it a "witch hunt."

But, he said, "it is important that there are the necessary safeguards in place to protect patients."

"This means doctors monitoring the standards of their colleagues' professional performance and raising issues of concern at the earliest possible stage before the patients are put at any risk."

"We are fortunate in this country to have doctors who are the envy of the world," said Dorrell. "However, for various reasons, some doctors do not always keep their professional knowledge up to scratch throughout their careers."

He said his ministry would be setting up a 24-hour hotline to receive anonymous tips on suspected incompetent doctors.

It would also incorporate a specific reference in doctors' NHS contracts pertaining to their "duty" to denounce colleagues deemed not to be up to snuff.

Professional sanctions, and even dismissal from the NHS, have not been ruled out, said Dorrell.

The ministry's proposals have placed the British medical profession in a delicate position. It cannot support incompetence, but neither can it encourage its members to inform on one another.

"You would hardly expect us to be enthusiastic about this," said Mac Armstrong, secretary of the British Medical Association. "It is a sad fact, and it will be very difficult to do. But we must create an atmosphere in which doctors can be helped to improve their performance."

Incompetence is not, said Armstrong, rampant among doctors. Rather, the NHS report that prompted the actions stemmed from "a very tiny number of very tragic cases two years ago."

"In the cases which caused this inquiry, the doctors were actually ill. The things that make doctors incompetent are very rarely malice. It is much more likely that the doctor is over-worked, overstressed, under-trained, badly managed, or, in fact ill."

In Southampton, same story: a three-year-old polio-victim needing an operation to ease his breathing had his operation cancelled twice, before a bed was finally found after front-page nationwide publicity.

Patients themselves

Vitamin A helps AIDS babies

By Lauran Neergaard
The Associated Press
WASHINGTON — Vitamin A might be an inexpensive way to ease the illnesses suffered by infants with the AIDS virus, new research suggests.

Even otherwise healthy people who lack sufficient Vitamin A are vulnerable to numerous diseases and even death. Whether administering Vitamin A benefits people with enough of the substance in their diet already is controversial.

But the first study of Vitamin A in HIV-infected babies, in a South African hospital whose patients don't lack the nutrient, found moderately large doses helped infants fight off Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)-related illnesses, especially dangerous diarrhea, Natal University researchers report. The study was published in Wednesday's American Journal of Public Health.

The results look "very plausible" and suggest that Vitamin A might even have applicability in the United States, said Dr. Reynaldo Martorell, a public health expert at Emory University who independently reviewed the study.

Doctors in Durban, South Africa, separated 118 babies born to HIV-infected women into two groups. Half the babies received doses of Vitamin A at ages 1 to 3 months, 6 to 9 months and 12 to 15 months. The other babies got placebos. Eighty-five of the infants were later found to be HIV-infected.

Another heart patient died after waiting for treatment for five hours on a hospital trolley in a corridor. A doctor treated a 16-month-old girl's head pains with a common pain-killer. Seeing no improvement, her mother took her to a hospital emergency room, where a brain tumor was discovered requiring three operations.

A six-year-old girl scheduled for heart surgery in Birmingham had her operation cancelled three times because no hospital bed was available.

In Southampton, same story: a three-year-old polio-victim needing an operation to ease his breathing had his operation cancelled twice, before a bed was finally found after front-page nationwide publicity.

ANSWERS

BRUSH UP YOUR MEMORY

1. Sophia Cathedral, Kiev, the oldest church in Russia.
2. Belvedere Palace, Vienna, Austria.
3. St. Peter's, Rome, with Bernini's colonnade.

BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

1. Originally the day when employers gave servants gift boxes.
2. Caspar, Balthasar and Melchior.
3. Chief Cashier of the Bank of England.
4. V-J (Day of Japan's surrender in World War II).
5. Family.
6. Joyous song. 7. Sweden.

Scientists find genetic link to male infertility

By Lori Valigra
Reuter

BOSTON — A new study links a genetic defect — rather than infection or other factors — to infertility in otherwise healthy men.

"In the past, male infertility was thought to be caused by infections, certain varicose veins around the testes or immune problems," said David Page, associate director of the Whitehead/MIT Centre for Genome Research who led the study, which was published in the journal *Nature Genetics*.

"This is the first clear-cut case of infertility in otherwise healthy males that shows a basis in the

genes," Mr. Page told Reuters. "Our findings will help some couples get a definitive answer about the reasons for their infertility and may eventually lead to new directions in infertility therapy."

The researchers studied the Y Chromosome, which determines the male gender, in 89 men who have the most severe form of infertility called azoospermia — the complete inability to make sperm.

Twelve of the men in the study were missing a small fragment of a specific portion of the Y Chromosome, but were otherwise healthy.

The fathers of all the men in the study had in-

some becomes defective. "This is more common than we initially realized," Mr. Page said.

Mr. Page and his team found that 13 percent of men with azoospermia had a defective Y Chromosome, which was missing a single gene known as DAZ.

However, the scientists said they still cannot conclude whether the DAZ gene alone is required to make sperm. There may be other unknown genes like it that perform this function.

Azoospermia is a newly arising defect, meaning it was not present in fathers and does not run in families. Mr. Page said scientists still do not understand how the Y Chromo-

some becomes defective. "This is more common than we initially realized," Mr. Page said.

Mr. Page and his team found that 13 percent of men with azoospermia had a defective Y Chromosome, which was missing a single gene known as DAZ.

However, the scientists said they still cannot conclude whether the DAZ gene alone is required to make sperm. There may be other unknown genes like it that perform this function.

Azoospermia is a newly arising defect, meaning it was not present in fathers and does not run in families. Mr. Page said scientists still do not understand how the Y Chromo-

Weekend crossword not received

The un
becom
three n
pure s

By Tony Ba
THE DESOLATE
are all too familiar
ians were bombard
lery. United N
peacekeepers. Un
as human shields.
thousands of refu
the move, and yet
distances feature
an evaporation of
in a matter of days.
of its human conse
Croatia's reappea
rebel Krajina Serb
has little differe
Serb onslaughts
Croatia in 1991, and
since 1991.

Yet the more im
significance of C
success is that it may
speedier settlement
conflicts that have
apart former Yugos
there is a grain of
the map that shows
nationalism is in con
which areas. Minora
must be the the
of Krupa or the V
of the Drina valley i
ern Bosnia, are being
out, never to return.
plete the amorphous
mythic landscapes.
It is possible to
again a peace that w
based on the ortho
defining three pure
Sarajevo, the Cro
Croatia and a trans
Bosnia for the Mu
Since it would be
that would violate the
fundamentals values
newly democratic pur
hold, it will be a
before we start talking
in public about a
a settlement. But the
will come and the c

(Continued from page 1)

In an interview with Washington Times, Secretary of Defense Richard Perry said the United States would defend Jordan if it was attacked by Iraq.

A U.S. Defense Department spokesman said Perry from the U.S. aircraft carrier Theodore Roosevelt, in the East Mediterranean, planned for military action against the Jordanian air force in the next few days.

The exercises, code-named Mannequin, as well as Jordanian air attacks, and special forces had planned for months but the decision to invade, Roosevelt said, was made in the last two days.

The study followed the babies just through age 18 months, so Coutsoudis couldn't say if Vitamin A would help them live longer.

Currently, doctors have little to offer HIV-infected children, Martorell said, and drugs that are available are expensive and have often-severe side effects.

Those arrested included members of special services who were close to General Slobodan Milošević and his brother Slobodan Milošević, who communicated the guard

Croats mass
parties in Bosnia and off
key concessions to the Serbs
if they agreed to the
Questioned over the
European capitals, the
most discussed key demands
the U.S. and its allies
many elements of provi
for aid and humanitari

The plan, developed by the
Bosnia and Herzegovina
NATO air strikes.

The program, to be
Bosnian Muslims, given
many who have for many
Bosnian Serbs served part
separatists rejected independence
Bosnia declared indepe
1992.

Region U.S. diplomats m
Bosnian and Croatian min
brother in a speech announ
was already a peace initiat
U.S. Assistant Secre
U.S. Ambassador Foreign
Croatian Foreign Minis

Features

JORDAN TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, AUGUST 17-18, 1995

The unthinkable is becoming inevitable — three new 'nationally pure' states in the Balkans

By Tony Barber

THE DESOLATE SCENES are all too familiar — civilians bombed by artillery, United Nations peacekeepers, United Nations peacekeepers seized as human shields, tens of thousands of refugees on the move, and yet another distinctive feature of Balkan civilisation cut to pieces in a matter of days. In terms of its human consequences, Croatia's recapture of the rebel Krajina Serb region has little different from the Serb onslaughts against Croatia in 1991 and Bosnia since 1992.

Yet the more immediate significance of Croatia's success is that it may bring a speedier settlement of the conflicts that have torn apart former Yugoslavia for the past four years. Suddenly, there is a grim clarity to the maps that show which nationality is in control of which areas. Minority communities, be they the Serbs of Krajina or the Muslims of the Drina valley in eastern Bosnia, are being wiped out, never to return to complete the ambitions of

mystical nationalists.

It is possible now to imagine a peace that would be based on the principle of defining three "nationally pure" states: Serbia for the Serbs, Croatia for the Croats, and a truncated Bosnia, for the Muslims.

Since it would be a peace that would violate the most fundamental values of tolerance that Western democracies purport to uphold, it will be a while before we hear our leaders talking in public about such a settlement. But the time

will come, and the catch-

phrase to watch out for will be: "It is the best peace attainable."

There is, of course, a horrible logic to this argument. Forced transfers of population have been the world's preferred way of cooling trouble spots this century. In some cases they appear to have worked, though at great human cost in the short-term. After a two-year war, the 1923 Treaty of Lausanne provided for compulsory exchange of the Turkish and Greek minorities of Greece and Turkey. Since then, the two countries may have continued to detest each other, but they have not fought a major war.

Equally, the removal of

more than 10 million Germans from Poland,

Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union after the World War II was an immense tragedy, in that it put

to the flame centuries of German civilisation in eastern Europe. Yet with the perspective of time we can see that Poland and the Czech Republic, emptied of their restive German minorities, are more stable states. It is surely no coincidence that, outside former Yugoslavia, one of the most tense areas in Europe is the Romanian province of Transylvania, where a discontented Hungarian minority is struggling to assert its identity.

In the case of former Yugoslavia, the establishment of "nationally pure" states is a process that has gathered pace this year but is not yet complete. Rump Yugoslavia, which consists of Serbia and Montenegro, has a population of 10.5

million, of whom only 70 per cent are Serbs and Montenegrins. There are large minorities of Albanians and Hungarians, who fear that the violent redistribution of nationalities in Croatia and Bosnia is a remorseless process that must extend one day to their own communities.

The same threat hangs over Macedonia, where more than 20 per cent of the two million people are ethnic Albanians, and whose Slavic majority is not even recognised as a distinct Macedonian nationality by Greece, Bulgaria and militants in Serbia. If, as

seems likely, the conflicts in Bosnia and Croatia are to be settled on the basis of allocating three spearate areas for Serbs, Croats and Muslims, this will increase the likelihood of warfare and expulsions of minorities in Macedonia and the Albanian-populated southern Serbian province of Kosovo.

Croatia's right-wing

nationalist government can

argue with some justice that the Krajina Serbs, a community descended from warhorns who defended the Habsburg Empire's borders against Turkish attack,

have not been expelled

from their native areas but left of their own will. President Franjo Tudjman had committed himself to granting some degree of autonomy to the Krajina Serbs once the war was over.

The fact that tens of thousands of Krajina Serbs chose to flee their homes, even before Croatia's armed forces completed their victory, gives a good idea of what fate the Serbs expected at the hands of their conquerors. Memories of the barbarities committed by Croatia's Nazi-backed puppet state in the Forties are still vivid. Even if the Krajina Serbs' fears of

a repeat slaughter were exaggerated, they saw little point in staying in a state that trumpets the Croatian national identity as its core value.

For the Bosnian Mus-

lims, the future does not look promising. Hundreds of thousands of Muslims have little prospect of returning to the areas of northern and eastern Bosnia from which Serb forces have expelled them since April 1992. Meanwhile, the south-western region of Bosnia-Herzegovina re-

mains firmly under the control of the Bosnian Croats,

armed and funded by Zag-

reb.

Nominally, the Muslims and Croats of Bosnia are allied in a federation that is in turn allied to Croatia. But Mr. Tudjman, like his Serbian rival, President Slobodan Milosevic, displays little enthusiasm for reconstructing an independent Bosnia in its pre-war borders. On the contrary, his private conversations and scribblings indicate a desire to redraw the borders of the Yugoslav successor state, dismantling Bosnia by adding territory to Croatia and Serbia.

The United States, practi-

cally the only country with

some influence over Croatian policies, appears not to have anticipated that to strengthen Croatia as a way of shattering the Greater Serbian dream was also to enhance Croatian power at the expense of the Bosnian Muslims. As a result of Croatia's victory over the Krajina Serbs, the Muslims are penned between a resurgent Croatian state and a Bosnian Serb region that, despite the current dispute between Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic and Mr. Milosevic, will inevitably enter Serbia's orbit.

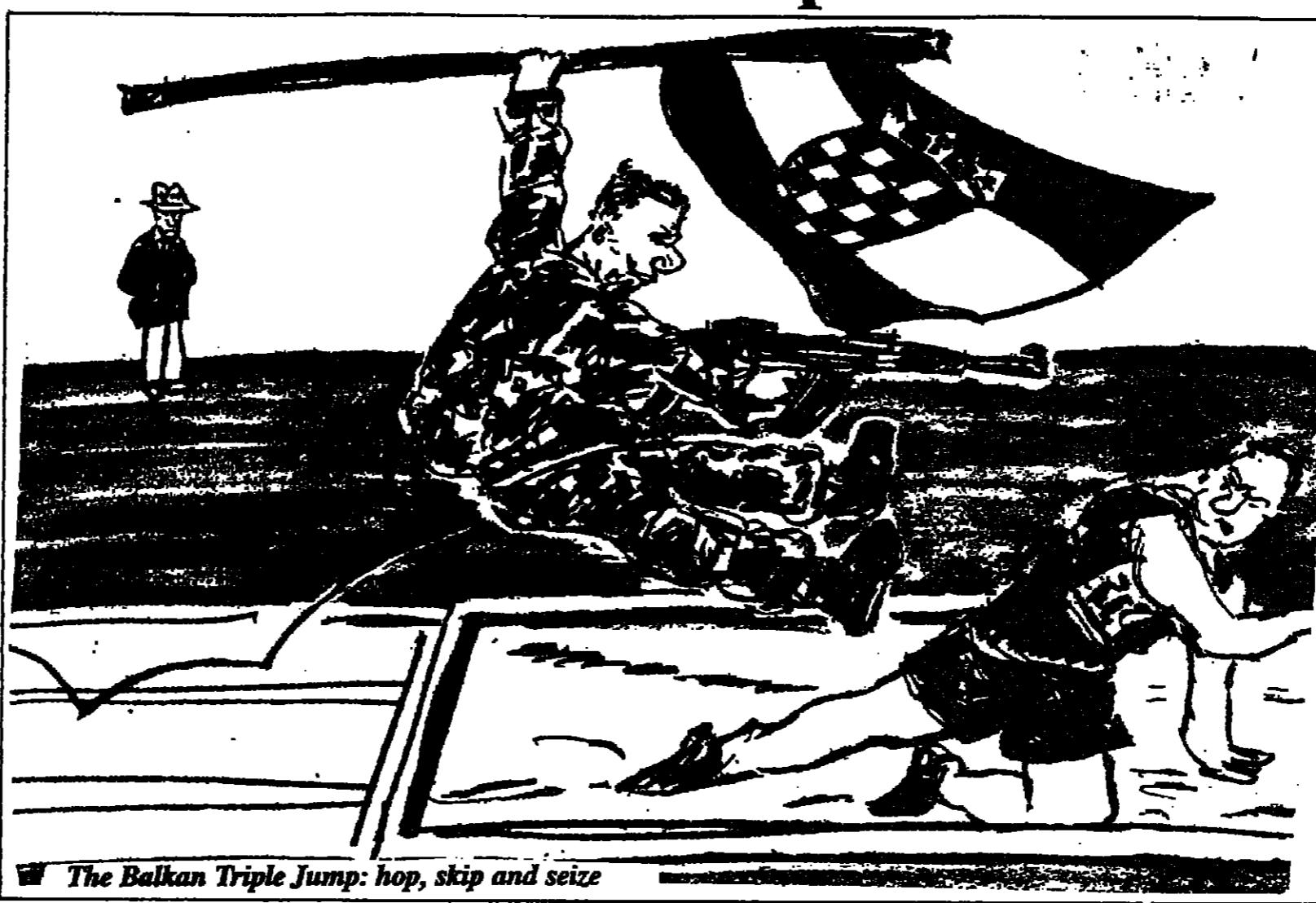
If the U.S. and the European Union (EU) are genuinely committed to restoring Bosnia's integrity, there are various forms of pressure that could be used against Croatia and Serbia. Economic sanctions, above all the denial of fresh credits, could be maintained against Serbia. The EU could refuse to consider Croatia as a potential member and deny it a trade accord. But yesterday Croatia showed what it thought of the EU, when the government said it would have nothing more to do with EU mediator Carl Bildt.

It seems more likely that the West will eventually acquiesce in a Yugoslav settlement involving revision of borders. Existing Western-Russian peace proposals come close to acknowledging the need for such a settlement, since they envisage confederated links between Croatia and the part of Bosnia allocated to Muslims and Croats; and between Serbia and the part allocated to the Bosnian Serbs.

Some British politicians who specialise in foreign policy have long contended privately that borders will have to change because of the enormous scale of the population movements sparked by the Yugoslav wars. It would appear a defeat for Western principles. But it is in reality one more lesson that, if you do not intervene decisively in a war, you cannot expect to control its outcome.

The Independent

Peace with a terrible price



The Balkan Triple Jump: hop, skip and seize

Iraq pledges cooperation

(Continued from page 1)

responsible for the Iraqi president's protection.

The arrests occurred on Aug. 8, after the two brothers, who were married to President Saddam's daughters, fled with their wives to Jordan, according to the Iraqi National Congress, based in London.

The director of cabinet at the Military Industrialisation Organisation, Gen. Hashem Al Takriti, was also arrested along with his assistants, as well as about 120 department heads at the organisation, the INC said in statement.

Those who preferred to go back to Baghdad after escorting Gen. Hassan to Jordan without knowing it was a defection were also arrested on their return, the statement said.

President Saddam ordered dozens of security officials arrested after the defection of Gen. Hassan, his son-in-law, including the guards that refused to follow him into Jordan, an opposition group said.

Those arrested included members of special services who were close to General Hassan and his brother Saddam Kamel Hassan, who commanded the guard unit

for a limited period," President Saddam told his ministers. "You must respect the letter of the law ... for the state to recover its prestige."

He vowed to take measures against betrayal and corruption during a speech last Friday in which he accused Gen. Hassan of embezzling millions of dollars before he defected.

A senior Syrian official meanwhile urged the Iraqi people to overthrow President Saddam and punish all his Henchmen, whether inside Iraq or outside.

The call to arms was made by Fayed Al Sayegh, director-general and chief editor of the official Syrian News Agency SANA, in an article that appeared aimed against Gen. Hassan.

"When the people take over they will punish all those whose hands were stained with the blood whether they were inside or outside Iraq," the article in the official daily Al Thawra said.

It did not mention by name Gen. Hassan.

"The change should not be made by Saddam's men. It should be made by a popular revolution which will uproot the system that is ruling the country," Mr. Sayegh said.

"You are called on to not ask for unusual authority except for determined tasks and

Necessary tips for aspiring motorists

By Marian Nimry

MY NIECE, Zein, went "thoom" the other day describing her already growing passion for her favourite method of transport: "The car". She will grow up fascinated by this wonderful machine that will take her "bye bye" for many years to come. When she becomes a teenager she will start wishing that her 18th birthday could somehow be advanced for the purpose (among other things) of obtaining her driver's license; the symbol for social status, maturity and freedom.

Little will she know, then, how to read the road signs, I don't mean the ones that are cemented on the

sides of roads, the ones that nobody adheres to, but other signs: the ones they never teach her at driving schools. These will be the ones she will have to learn the hard way.

A yellow car with the sign "Taxi" on it, is, to say the least, dangerous. Be careful, chances are that even if it is going 100 kms an hour, it may pull over at any second to pick up passengers. Zein will have to be ready to slam the brakes at any second.

She will have to watch out for pedestrians for they have a death wish. They can spot an innocent driver a mile away, and they will wait. The moment that the car is a metre or so away from them, then will be the

time for them to jump in front of it, striding along calmly with a smug smile on their faces. Once again, my advice to her will be to slam the brakes.

On the other hand, driving school cars and cars with Saudi license plates are highly unpredictable. She will have to keep a watchful eye on them and to be ready for anything.

If she happens to see a car crawling along as if the driver was looking for an address, then the driver is probably very old. Her best move will be to carefully ease her way around him/her and by no means honk the horn. This type usually has a bad heart and may otherwise go off the road.

Contrary to what some

people may tell her, a red light is not for revving up her car and yellow does not mean "Go". She is not a Formula One driver and the others are not competitors.

On the other hand, from a distance, a yellow light just turned from green is not an invitation to go as fast as possible before it turns red.

If she is calmly waiting for the lights to change and she feels a truck edging closer, chances are that if she looks sideways then she will see a man. He will be gawking and trying to see as much of her legs as possible. She could give the man an angry look and he may look away, or, she could patiently philosophise about the fact that things will

never change.

When she pulls into a gas station to fill her car with gas and she sees a man smoking a cigarette while pumping a highly flammable liquid into her car; my advice for her is not to panic; to relax. He knows what he is doing.

If she is calmly waiting for the lights to change and she feels a truck edging closer, chances are that if she looks sideways then she will see a man. He will be gawking and trying to see as much of her legs as possible. She could give the man an angry look and he may look away, or, she could patiently philosophise about the fact that things will

The writer is a student of English literature at the University of Jordan. She contributed the above article to the Jordan Times.

Croats mass against Serbs

(Continued from page 1)

parties in Bosnia and offers key concessions to the Serbs if they accept.

Questioned over the last few days in a number of European capitals, the diplomats disclosed key details of the U.S. plan. It contains many elements of previous peace efforts which have so far had little success.

The plan includes possible territorial trade-offs within Bosnia and the threat of NATO air strikes.

The proposals have so far met a wary response from Bosnia's Muslim-led government, which fears too many concessions to the Serbs. The Bosnian Serbs carved out a separatist "republic" after Bosnia declared independence from Yugoslavia in 1992.

Senior U.S. diplomats met Bosnian and Croatian ministers in a fresh attempt to broker a negotiated settlement but the peace initiative was already coming under criticism.

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Holbrooke met Croatian Foreign Minister

U.S. dollar rises in Amman

(Continued from page 1)

Mate Granic near the Adriatic port of Split on Tuesday and also held talks with Bosnian Foreign Minister Mohammad Sacirbey.

He was to meet Croatian President Franjo Tudjman on Wednesday and was expected in Belgrade on Thursday for talks with Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic.

U.S. officials said that for the time being Bosnian Serbs would be locked out of the process, until they showed signs that they want to do a deal.

In Geneva meanwhile, European Union mediator Carl Bildt, who was heading for Sarajevo to meet Bosnian government leaders, held secret talks with Momico Krajisnik, a senior Bosnian Serb leader. U.N. mediator Thorvald Stoltenberg was also present.

Diplomats had no details of what was discussed in Geneva but at the very least it appeared to be a back-drop channel to the Bosnia Serb leadership during the new round of efforts to strike a peace deal.

Diplomats were expected to be a meeting of Shias and Alevis?" he told the three-day pilgrimage's opening ceremony. "Everyone is equal," he said.

The Alevis, followers of a

Turkish liberal version of Shi'ism, have long been scorned by the orthodox Sunni majority for alleged heresy and the use of wine and dance during

worship.

Tensions spilled over last March when 17 people died in riots in Istanbul after unknown gunmen opened fire on an Alevi coffeehouse. The riots rocked the country.

More than 100,000 Alevis

were expected in the central town of Hacibektaş for a festival of dancing, singing and poetry at the tomb of a 13th century Islamic mystic, organisers said.

What is the point of creating animosity between Sunnis and Alevis?" he told the three-day pilgrimage's opening ceremony. "Everyone is equal," he said.

Alevi calls for government aid to build places of worship and permission to teach

Alevism in schools — rights granted to Sunnis — have grown since 37 people were killed in an Islamist arson attack at an Alevi festival in the town of Sivas in 1993.

"For years the state has refused to recognise the Alevis' identity, just like with the Kurds. But now our voice is rising, we're showing our force," Hacibektaş Mayor Mustafa Ozcan said.

"Things have changed since the Sivas massacre. People are coming here in greater numbers every year," he told Reuters.

Many pilgrims wore red headbands to commemorate the battle of Kerbala.

Under an accord signed in Beijing in June, South

Korea is supplying 150,000 tonnes of free rice to the North to ease what Seoul says is a chronic food shortage and to improve ties.

Half has been shipped to the North already and the deliveries will be completed by the end of this month.

The North Koreans had no intention to have a dialogue with the South. They are talking with the South just to get rice. All signs show a likely halt in dialogue once rice shipments to the North are completed.

The 9,400-tonne Samsun Venus and its 21 crew members were held for about a week by the North after Pyongyang said a sailor took photographs of Chongjin port, where the ship had docked to unload 5,000 tonnes of rice aid.

On Sunday, Pyongyang released the freighter and its crew following three days of talks in Beijing during which Seoul expressed regret over the incident, assured the North it would not happen again and promised to resume rice shipments.

Seoul officials warned Seoul would consider scrapping rice aid to the North unless the ship and crew were freed quickly.

Kim Chang-Soon, head of the Institute for North Korean Studies, said the North did not appear ready to accept any of Seoul's peace overtures.

President Kim's government has been under fire for inconsistency in dealing with North Korea.

CBJ to allow banks to lend in foreign currency

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Banking sources said Wednesday new regulations under consideration by the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) would allow commercial banks to grant loans in foreign currencies for development projects.

According to the sources, the move would help local commercial banks to benefit from an expected high demand for financing in foreign currency for infrastructure and industrial projects being planned by the government and the private sector in the wake of the state of peace that has been achieved between Jordan and Israel.

Particularly relevant to these projects are a series of economy-related laws that are currently under study by Parliament and expected to be enacted before the Middle East and North Africa economic summit scheduled to be held in late October, the sources noted.

The projects, in which the private sector is expected to have a major role, are expected to be formally presented and discussed at the summit, which will bring together government leaders, businessmen and economic experts from all over the world.

According to reports in the local press, CBJ Governor Mohammad Nabulsi believes that allowing local commercial banks, which have high liquidity both in local and foreign currencies after the recent adoption of liberal foreign exchange regulations, to extend loans in foreign currency would benefit them significantly since they would be able to use idle currency and replace foreign financiers.

Foreign currency loans will not be available for importing consumer goods.

Bankers noted that the CBJ plan, expected to be formally announced soon has been following a consistent policy of liberalising banking regulations, particularly those related to foreign currency dealings, while keeping a tight watch on enforcement.

The proposal sends a strong signal of an increasing confidence in the monetary situation of Jordan," said a banking executive, noting that the CBJ recently moved to make the Jordanian dinar fully convertible in line with the international commitment to the International Fund (IMF).

Another move adopted by the CBJ is to raise the capital of local commercial banks to a minimum of JD 20 million.

Kuwait deputies attack debt plan as favouring rich

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait's opposition accused the government Tuesday of seeking to enrich politically-powerful debtors at state expense by demanding easier repayment terms for \$20 billion in bad loans.

"The government's solution is crooked because it will burden the state budget," member of parliament Abdullah Al Nibari said, recommending rejection of a government bill aimed at burying a debt scandal that has enfeebled the economy for years.

"The big debtors are the ones who affect political decisions," he told a parliamentary debate on the bill.

"If we approved this plan, the state would forfeit trust and dignity," said MP Sharera Al Ajimi.

Bankers say the 10,000 corporate and individual debtors include government officials, some of whom owe millions of dollars. An official list of debtors has never been published.

Opposition MPs recommended making debtors pay according to existing settlement terms set by a 1993 law aimed at solving the economy's most intractable problem.

Finance Minister Nasser Al Rodhan denied MPs' accusations of favouritism. He reiterated that the government's only aim in seeking an

easing of the terms was to prevent economic damage that might result from debtors rushing to sell off assets.

The chamber is due to vote on the bill before Sept. 6, the repayment deadline for those who owe the bulk of the debt. Under existing terms the so-called big debtors are required to pay about 2.3 billion dinars (\$7.6 billion) by that date.

While debtors owing small amounts have already complied with the 1993 law and paid up, the larger debtors have yet to pay.

Economist and bankers said the plan is lenient to some of the world's wealthiest borrowers and would endanger economic reforms aimed at reducing reliance on the state.

The debt is owed to the government, which bought out commercial banks' holdings of the dubious loans in 1992.

The debt derives partly from Iraq's 1990-91 occupation and partly from the 1982 crash of the now defunct Souq Al Manakh informal souk, which grew dizzy in the 1970s as Kuwaitis borrowed from banks to speculate on Gulf investment opportunities.

The collapse left a trail of entangled debt. Kuwaiti banks were badly affected by the crash.

TOKYO (Agencies) — With Tokyo's foreign exchange market dazzled by the dollar's surge, some dealers said Wednesday that a climb above 100 yen is now in prospect.

Many dealers see today's rise as only the beginning," said Hiroyuki Saito, vice president at Chase Manhattan Bank N.A. in Tokyo.

Concerted action by the central banks of the United States, Japan and Germany overnight set off a dollar-buying clamour in Tokyo, with dealers who had become used to treating such intervention simply as a chance to make profits now fearful of missing a rally.

The U.S. currency steamed into the 99 yen level for the first time in six months, touching 99.05 yen Wednesday compared with 94.83/90 yen late Tuesday in Tokyo and a 96.95/05 yen close in New York.

"Whether you won or lost in the recent rally depended on whether you believed in the monetary authorities' strong determination (to push up the dollar) or not," said Kazunori Iida, deputy general manager at Nissho Iwai Corp.

"(Their) credibility has been strengthened further after the overnight intervention," he said.

In overnight trade, the U.S. Federal Reserve (Fed), the Bank of Japan (BOJ) and Germany's Bundesbank bought dollars for marks and yen. The Swiss National Bank also bought dollars for Swiss francs in the coordin-

ated move.

"The Bundesbank's participation was unexpected and shows strongly that the authorities were not satisfied with a dollar rebound to around 94 to 95 yen," said Tetsuhiro Tomata, deputy general manager at the Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan.

The previous coordinated dollar-buying action on Aug. 2 involved only the Fed and the BOJ.

Officials in Tokyo also reiterated their determination to see a stronger dollar.

The dollar is still in the process of the "orderly reversal" targeted by the Group of Seven (G-7) nations, said an official at Japan's ministry of finance.

A senior BOJ official said the G-7 nations' resolve was being accepted by the market, adding: "The mood in the market is definitely changing. The credibility of the dollar is growing stronger in the financial markets, not just in the currency market."

Many dealers said the 100 yen barrier was already within reach as they failed to find any sellers of dollars.

Dealers also said the strong resolve of the monetary authorities was making them wary of being dollar-short, forcing them to keep buying back the dollar after profit-taking.

Technical charts showed no signs of the dollar's bull run coming to a halt, as its steep climb has broken through all major technical resistance points.

"There's nothing to stop the dollar — it's broken

through all resistances and gone above all trend lines," said Yoshihori Matsushita, chief manager at Mitsubishi Bank.

Although most dealers agreed a dollar at 100 yen may be imminent, they doubted it would rise much above this level.

They said failure by the Japanese government to come up with additional measures to back up financial deregulation steps announced on Aug. 2 involved only the Fed and the BOJ.

Officials in Tokyo also reiterated their determination to see a stronger dollar.

The dollar is still in the process of the "orderly reversal" targeted by the Group of Seven (G-7) nations, said an official at Japan's ministry of finance.

Some dealers also said Washington and Tokyo would not tolerate a dollar above 100 yen, as a stronger dollar would hurt both Japanese importers and U.S. exporters.

Other analysis in Tokyo said Wednesday that central bank intervention to support the dollar may have only a limited impact as fundamentals undermining the currency persist.

"In my view, this is not a reverse Plaza accord," said Shunsuke Motani, economist with Deutsche Morgan Grenfell, referring the 1985 agreement between the United States, Japan, Germany, France and Britain to push down the dollar.

"Japan has taken the world economy hostage to its problems," he told AFP-Asia, an AFP-affiliated financial news wire.

"I think 100 yen to the dollar is their target for now," Mr. Motani told AFP-Asia. "In September, I expect the yen to strengthen back towards the 97-98 level, or even 95 yen, depending on how far the dollar rises in this rally."

The joint intervention

Tuesday was aimed at taking advantage of the fact that Japan usually records a capital outflow in August, ahead of a sizeable inflow in

September for the half-year book closing, he said. This capital outflow naturally boosts demand for dollars.

"Although the Bundesbank was probably the instigator of the intervention, the Fed and Bank of Japan appeared to intervene all the way to 97 yen," said Ronald Leven, analyst at Morgan Guaranty Trust Co.

"Ninety-five to 100 yen would be a natural target level if the purpose was to put the Japanese exporters back on a comfortable competitive footing," he added.

"However, a rising dollar may be a key component to Clinton's reelection strategy," Mr. Leven said. He noted that a stronger dollar would help underpin U.S. bonds, reducing pressure for a hike in U.S. interest rates and helping to hold the U.S. economy and markets stable through the Clinton reelection campaign.

Germany's decision to intervene despite its longstanding opposition partly reflected the strong mark's adverse impact on the German economy, dealers said.

"A repo rate cut later in the week by the Bundesbank would confirm its new stance," one economist said, "although this may not occur if the dollar-mark remains weak overnight."

Economists said the recent round of central bank intervention also appeared to be aimed at heading off deflationary pressures squeezing the Japan economy.

"There can be two scenarios," Mr. Motani said. "Governments around the world have agreed with the idea of a stronger dollar as a trendline for a continued period. Or, they have agreed that the Japan crisis is harmful, and should be avoided."

If the former stance was adopted at the G-7 Halifax Summit, then concerted intervention would continue through early 1996," he said.

Mexico's economy nosedives as crisis takes its toll

MEXICO CITY (R) — Mexico's economy plunged deeper into recession in the second quarter as the crisis sparked by a December currency devaluation took a worse than expected toll, the Finance Ministry said late Tuesday.

In a quarterly statement delivered to Congress, it said the country's gross domestic product (GDP), which measures the total output of goods and services, fell a chilling 10.5 per cent between April and June, versus the same period last year.

That may make the situation look worse than it actually is, the ministry said, noting that the data may disguise the fact that the recession has actually bottomed out.

Nevertheless, a 10.5 per cent drop in second quarter

investment. But it will be no surprise to businessmen.

In recent weeks, business leaders have pestered President Ernesto Zedillo to take additional steps to ease the burden of heavy taxation and high interest rates on cash-strapped firms.

Scores of small- and medium-sized businesses have gone under in the crisis, and many more are threatened by a vicious circle of slumping sales, job losses and unpaid debts, the most powerful business chambers warned in a report last week.

Unemployment has skyrocketed and street crime in the capital has risen alarmingly this year, authorities say.

In political terms, the crisis has cost Mr. Zedillo's ruling

Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) dearly. This year it has lost three out of four state elections — an unprecedented setback in a country where it has held almost total power for more than 66 years.

The finance ministry, however, put the best possible light on the statistics. By releasing them late at night, it may have sought to prevent any knee-jerk reaction by the

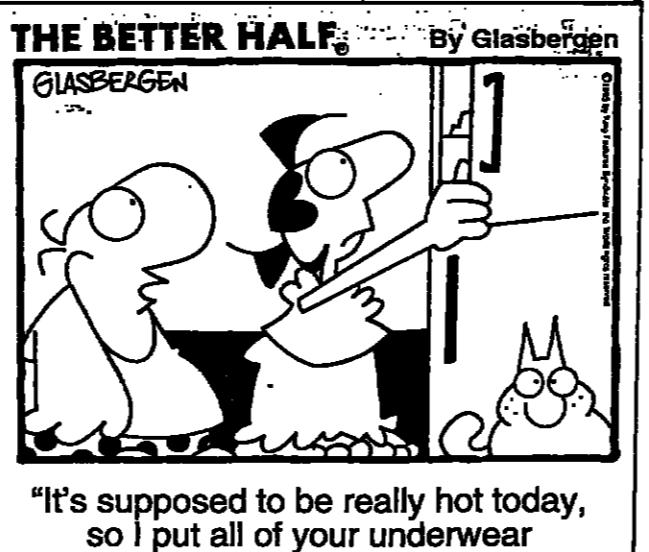
country's financial markets.

The 10.5 per cent drop in second quarter GDP compares with a very strong quarter in 1994, possibly exaggerating the extent of the decline, the ministry said.

After the loss of more than half a million jobs in the early part of the year, it also said unemployment in June was no worse than in May, suggesting that "open unemployment is tending towards an

incipient stabilisation."

It noted that inflation has fallen and that the devaluation has helped Mexico turn an \$8.8 billion trade deficit in the first half of last year into a \$3.9 billion surplus this year.



JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

CNATH

SPUHL

TORREC

FEXPIR

THAT SCRABBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Mike Aragon

© 1995 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

All Rights Reserved

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Yesterday's Jumble: CHAIR RAINY BEHALF POTENT

Answer: Why the fisherman didn't take the call — HE WAS ON THE OTHER LINE

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 1995

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

TAURUS: (March 21 to April 19) During this day, be sure to carry through with any plans made yesterday and be particularly careful in your activities.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Put some new plan in operation during the morning and in the evening, go after personal matters which are pressing.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Pursue intimate aims this morning, but tonight, concentrate on your most secret wish. Be thoughtful of friends.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) You can get much completed in the business world during this morning, but later today concentrate on personal wishes.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Use your inventive ability today, your ingenuity in handling new projects and get ahead faster. Plan how to gain greater prestige.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Handle your business affairs brilliantly during the morning, but later gain data you need from an outsider.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Discuss some new plan with your partners today and then get into the minutiae of such. Show that you are ethical and reliable.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You can get many career activities completed during today which can bring fine benefits. Make right arrangements with your associates.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Early this morning make appointments of a social nature for the future and later tonight get into that workload and clear it up.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Concentrate upon home affairs this morning, but reserve this evening for simple and wholesome pleasures.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Get busy early today at correspondence and other communications and later enjoy your family at home.

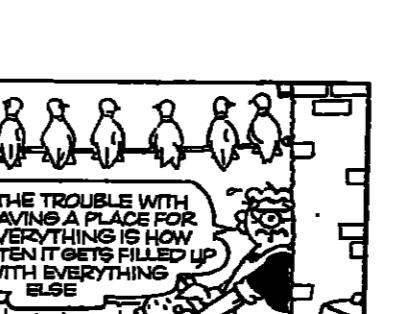
PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Plan how best to add to your present abundance during this morning and confer with experts this evening for your success.

Birthstone of August: Peridot — Golden Quartz

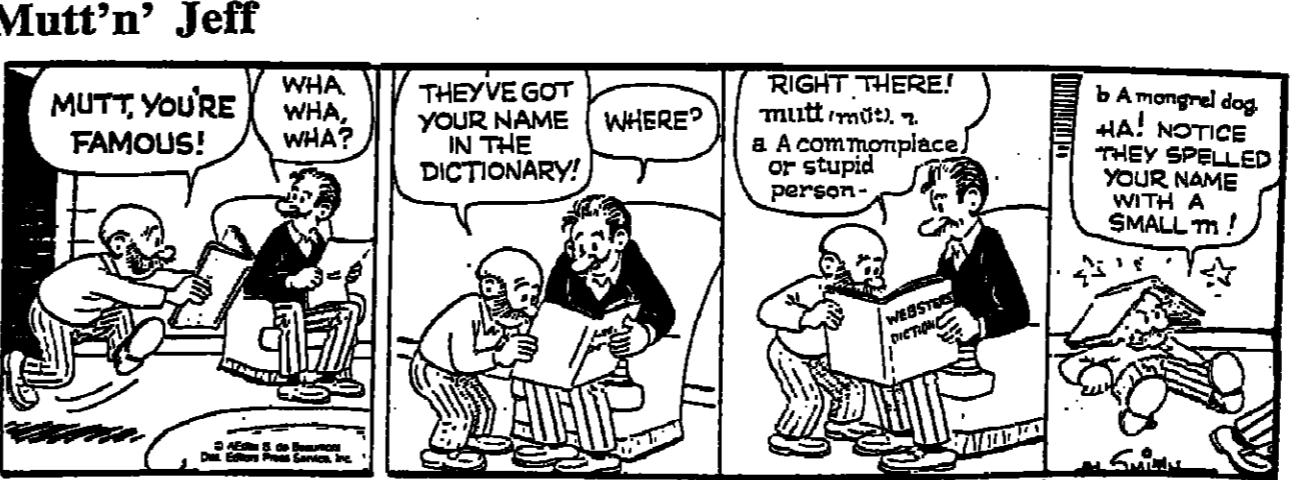
Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt'n' Jeff



THEY'VE GOT YOUR NAME IN THE DICTIONARY!

RIGHT THERE! mut

Business & Finance

Business Daily Beat

A review of economic news from the Arabic press

Tarawneh: No labour discussions with Israel

** SALEH AL Tarawneh, secretary-general of the Ministry of Labour, denied that Israel had requested Jordan for labourers. He pointed out that movement and organisation of labour between Jordan and Israel was not under consideration at present and could be covered through the economic agreement between the two countries. Mr. Tarawneh said the Israeli labour market requires foreign labour in the services and agricultural sectors which are basically the two sectors where Jordanian labour is lacking. As such, Jordan is allowing Arab labourers to work in these two areas, he pointed out and added: "Jordanian labour is highly qualified to be required by Israel." The secretary general also denied Israeli press reports about sending back Jordanian labourers from Israel and stressed that there was no Jordanian labour in Israel. Israeli press has claimed that Jordanian tourists are working illegally in large numbers in the construction sector in Israel and that 43 persons were recently sent back (Al Aswad).

** A NEWLY-registered company, Universal Hotel for Tourism (UHT), has plans to start building a 4-star hotel before the end of this year. The 105-room hotel hi-tech entertainment outlets, several theme restaurants and an abundance of amenities and shops, is expected for completion within two years. The public shareholding company, initially capitalised at JD 6 million, has conducted an extensive study of the hotel market for the next five years and concluded that the driving force for this market segment will be highly dependent on price competitiveness and location suitability, especially with the intense competition and over-supply of mainly five-star hotels that the market had been witnessing in the last year. The total cost of the UHT hotel will be about JD 4.8 million, of which JD 450,000 will be for purchasing a 2-dunum land between the Fifth and Eighth circles of Jabal Amman. UHT founders, who are all related to Raja Halazon and Turino Hotel and Gastro-nomy Centre Ltd., are undergoing a number of arrangements with potential European hotel management companies to manage and operate the hotel(s) and undertake as agents the operations and management of the company. The UHT company also plans to develop a global network agents through either acquiring nominal interest shares in a number of travel agencies and tour operators or in offering them a share interest in UHT common stock.

** THE GOVERNOR of Balqa ordered the temporary closure of the Jordan-Danish Dairy Company until the firm brings a filtering machine for yoghurt. The governor also ordered the closure of the Chemical Detergents factory for not abiding by sanitary conditions (Al Ra'i).

** THE GOVERNOR of Tafih dismissed 11 of the 126 employees at the municipality to control expenditures. He said the municipality's finances had reached a critical stage after burdened by JD 565,000 in loans and JD 186,000 in debt servicing. Noting that the annual income was only JD 358,000, the mayor said that the first shock to the new municipality council was its inability to pay the wages of the employees for three months. He said that the annual pay of the dismissed amounted to JD 13,200 and that there were 51 non-Jordanian sanitary workers who take JD 48,096 in salaries. The mayor explained that 48.5 per cent of the municipality's annual income goes to paying the salaries of the 126 employees and another 48.5 per cent for debt servicing, leaving only three per cent for other services (Al Ra'i).

** APRICORN (December 20 to January 20) Concern on home affairs this morning make appointments of a social nature future and later turn it into that workload.

** QUARIUS (January 21 to February 19) Get busy today at correspondences as you enjoy your family life.

** SCES (February 20 to March 20) Plan how to do your present job during this morning with experts this morning for your success.

** RUTHSTONE OF AUGUST 17 — Golden Guard

Financial Jordan Times Markets In cooperation with Cairo American Bank

Government Interest Rates				Date: 16/8/1995
Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHNS	6 MTHNS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	5.48	5.68	5.75	5.81
Sterling Pound	6.50	6.65	6.87	7.04
Deutsche Mark	4.37	4.37	4.37	4.37
Suisse Franc	5.87	5.87	5.87	5.87
French Franc	5.87	5.88	5.88	5.87
Japanese Yen	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.87
European Currency Unit	5.25	5.75	5.76	5.81

Interest rate for maximum exceeding 10% (U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent).

Precious Metals				Date: 16/8/1995	
Metal	USD/oz	JD/Gm	Metal	USD/oz	JD/Gm
Gold	384.55	7.50	Silver	5.38	0.120

* 24 Karat

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Tables

Date: 16/8/1995

Currency	bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.7130	0.7150
Sterling Pound	1.1065	1.1110
Deutsche Mark	0.4790	0.4814
Suisse Franc	0.3755	0.3784
French Franc	0.1405	0.1412
Japanese Yen	0.7740	0.7774
Dutch Guilder	0.6528	0.6549
Swedish Krona
Italian Lira*	0.0458	0.0460
Belgian Franc

* Per 100

Currency	bid	Offer
Bahrain Dinar	1.8750	1.8774
Lebanon Lira*	0.045500	0.045700
Saudi Riyal	0.1895	0.1917
Kuwait Dinar	2.2000	2.3550
Qatari Riyal	0.1944	0.1959
Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2140
Omani Riyal	1.4350	1.4520
UAE Dirham	0.1935	0.1944
Croatian Drachma*	0.1350	0.1350
Cypriot Pound	1.5560	1.6350

* Per 100

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at mid-session on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One U.S. dollar	1.3594/04	Canadian dollar	1.4740/50
	1.6510/20	Deutschmarks	1.2260/70
	30.29/33	Dutch guilders	30.40/43
	5.0408/30	Swiss francs	5.0408/30
	1620.01/0	Belgian francs	1620.01/0
	97.6878	French francs	97.6878
	7.2920/20	Italian lire	7.2920/20
	6.4510/60	Japanese yen	6.4510/60
	5.7100/50	Swedish crowns	5.7100/50
One Sterling	1.5532/42	Norwegian crowns	1.5532/42
One ounce of gold	\$383.80/384.30	Danish crowns	U.S. dollar
			U.S. dollars

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, AUGUST 18, 1995
By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Be more willing to state your aims to those about you and gain their cooperation. This is a day for making big progress.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 18) Find a way to get in to see a bigwig today and impress with your finest capabilities to gain support you need.

GEMINI: (May 19 to June 21) This is a good day for seeing as many persons as you can, both in business and social life and make real progress.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) If you are more efficient and clever at your career activities today, you have a chance to gain more benefits. Show loyalty to loved one.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) New situations arise which are an opportunity to have greater success today, especially via Jet Set contacts.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 21) Find a better system for handling and initiating new deals this morning and advance more quickly. This evening can be very romantic.

LIBRA: (September 22 to October 21) Situations arise which can assist you in becoming more successful today, so be sure to handle them properly. Think constructively.

SCORPIO: (October 22 to November 21) Enthusiastically get into duties ahead of you today and gain the approval of higher-ups. Rest at home this evening with your loved ones.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) This is a good day to plan amusements which will bring you success from worries and tensions. Spend time with loved one.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 19) Study the situation at home and see how best to improve conditions there. Invite guests in for this evening for a good time.

AQUARIUS: (January 20 to February 18) You have fine ideas today for adding to your abundance and should put them in operation quickly. Listen to a successful person.

PISCES: (February 19 to March 20) You can be more successful by utilising new methods and ideas for forging ahead thereby.

Birthstone of August: Peridot — Golden Quartz

VILLA D'ANGELO
Authentic Italian Restaurant
Jabal Amman
Tel 638212
Air-conditioned Lounge and Outside Terrace

FOR YOUR Advertisement In Jordan Times Call tel:
667171 ext. 223

Jordan hopes to see accord on Middle East development bank

By Rana Sabbagh
Reuter

AMMAN — Jordan said Wednesday it was optimistic on some sort of Middle East "development bank" before an economic summit in Amman in October, despite continuing disagreements over its role.

Planning Minister Rima Khalaf-Hunaidi told Reuters she hoped for an announcement in the summit's final declaration although details would remain to be worked out.

"We have not yet reached agreement on the optimum structure of financing mechanisms for the region," she said, acknowledging differences between Washington and its European allies.

"Once agreement is reached on this, or on establishing the regional bank, there will still remain many issues to be resolved, including lending practices and the types of financing extended to the countries like Jordan," she said.

Washington insists the bank operate on a commercial basis rather than have "concessional windows" — which poorer countries like Jordan want.

"But I am optimistic that some sort of an agreement will be reached before the Amman summit," Mrs. Khalaf-Hunaidi added.

The summit may choose something less than a bank as a compromise between the United States and Europe, Jordanian officials said. A financial intermediary could mobilise funds from existing financial institutions.

Washington, backed by

Israel and most of its Arab neighbours, wants a bank to finance development in the region as part of Middle East peace process.

But the European Union (EU) says there are enough leaders in the area and argues that the World Bank and the EU's investment bank have already pledged \$3 billion to the region.

"I am not saying, however, that such an agreement necessarily will be to the satisfaction of each and every country involved," the Jordanian minister said.

"At that point, I am sure each country will be able to take a decision regarding joining the bank based on an assessment of whether the arrangements are consistent with its national interests and regional objectives," she said.

Washington insists the bank operate on a commercial basis rather than have "concessional windows" — which poorer countries like Jordan want.

Two of the main supporters of the bank, Egypt and Jordan are openly lobbying to have the headquarters of the proposed bank.

More than 1,000 government leaders and businessmen will attend the three-day Amman conference starting Oct. 29. It is a follow-up to last November's Casablanca economic summit that for the first time brought Arab and Israeli political and business leaders together.

Washington, backed by

Suez Canal officials considering price cut to lure back trade

CAIRO (AFP) — The Suez Canal authorities are considering price cuts to try to reverse the waterway's declining traffic figures, officials said Wednesday.

"We are currently studying a possible reduction in tariffs to deal with the fall in the number of oil tankers using the canal," a canal official said, asking not to be named.

Prices are reviewed every October and the new tariffs come into force the following

January.

A total of 1,288 tankers used the canal in the first quarter of 1995 compared to 1,396 in the same period last year.

"The Sumed oil pipeline, the Suez Canal's main competitor, is at the root of the fall in the number of oil tankers," the official said.

Total shipping also fell —

from 8,355 in 1994 to 7,617 in 1995, a drop of 10 per cent.

Revenue from the canal is

Egypt's second largest source of foreign currency after remittances from Egyptians working abroad and ahead of oil and tourism earnings.

All set for Rumman Hill Climb

By Aleen Bannayan
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Seventy two participants will be testing their driving skills when the country's most popular auto event — the Rumman Hill Climb — begins Friday morning.

The event has attracted the country's top competitors vying for advanced standings in the 1995 Jordan Driver's Open Championship. In addition three top Lebanese competitors and two from the United Arab Emirates are taking part.

Competitors in the two session event will be trying to break the record for the 3 kilometre-long event which was set by His Majesty King Hussein in 1989 in his Mercedes 190 with a time of 2 minutes 02.42 seconds.

Organised by the Royal Automobile Club of Jordan (RACJ), the Rumman Hill Climb has been held since 1956 in the beautiful scenic area 30 kilometres north of Amman, off the Jarash highway, just north of Rumman Village.

Last year's winner and Jordan Driver's Open champion Bashir Bustami will be driving a Ford Sierra Cosworth, so will Ma'rout Abu Samra who has had a good year winning last month's National Rally and finishing third overall in the Jordan International Rally.

1993 Driver's Open champion Amjad Farrah will be in an Opel Manta 400, Ahmad Al Daoud in a Ford Fiesta XR2i and Lebanon's Jean Pierre Nasrallah will be in a Lancia Delta Integrale.

The cars have been divided into seven classes depending on engine capacity and degree of modification from the standard base



His Majesty King Hussein attending one of his favourite sporting events — the Rumman Hill Climb — in which he still holds the record set in 1989 (file photo)



One of the competitors in last year's Pepsi Rumman Hill Climb on his way up the scenic hill (file photo)

model. Jordanian drivers will face strong competition

from the three Lebanese participants who have the latest specification rally cars.

Class 5

Class One	
Fari's Juma's (JOR)	Toyota Corolla
Khalil Juma (JOR)	Toyota Corolla
Amjad Syouf (JOR)	Daihatsu Charmant
Mazen Shoman (JOR)	Daihatsu Charmant
Abdul Fatah Malhas (JOR)	Alpha Romeo 33
Rami Yaghmour (JOR)	Nissan Stanza 1.6
Tareq Juma (JOR)	Nissan Stanza 1.6
Imad Juma (JOR)	Renault 5 Alpine
Fadi Jad'oun (JOR)	Opel Ascona 1.3
Fakhri Bustami (JOR)	Toyota Corolla Coupe Xi
Faris Bustami (JOR)	Honda Civic CRX
Wajih Shishani (JOR)	Toyota Carina
Mazen Turk (JOR)	Toyota Corolla
Ramzi Sha'ban (JOR)	Opel Ascona 1.6

Class 2

Bashar Bustami (JOR)	Ford Sierra Cosworth
Naser Bustami (JOR)	Ford Sierra Cosworth
Adel Metni (LEB)	BMW M3
Marouf Abu Samra (JOR)	Ford Sierra Cosworth
Reimon Fleifel (JOR)	Mazda 323 Turbo 4x4

Class 7 and 8

Imad Juma (JOR)	Opel Ascona 2000
Mohammad Juma (JOR)	Opel Ascona 2000
Amjad Farrah (JOR)	Toyota Corolla GT
Tareq Taba (JOR)	Renault 17
Hasan Taba (JOR)	Renault 17
Amjad Farrah (JOR)	Opel Manta 400

Class 9

Michel Saleh (UAE)	Toyota Celica GT 4
Rashed Ben Ghurab (UAE)	Toyota Celica GT 4
Faris Bustami (JOR)	Toyota Celica GT4
Ivan Pierre Nasrallah (LEB)	Lancia Delta Integrale
Jean Pierre Nasrallah (LEB)	Nissan 210 S
Yanai Qomok (JOR)	Lancia Delta Integrale
Yanai Qomok (JOR)	Daihatsu Charmant S
Hassan Abu Samra (JOR)	Daihatsu Charmant S
Ma'rout Abu Samra (JOR)	Daihatsu Charmant S
Nabil Karam (LEB)	Subaru Impreza

All-Africa Games fighting funding problems

HARARE (R) — With barely a month to go before Zimbabwe hosts the All-Africa Games, the continent's premier sporting event, organisers are battling to overcome severe funding problems.

Officials are publicly optimistic that preparations will be complete before 6,000 competitors and officials

from 42 African countries arrive, but in private many are dismayed at government delays in providing cash.

Organising committee chairman Tommy Sithole told a news conference on Tuesday night that despite "some problems" the games would go ahead on time.

"The truth is that there has

not been enough money allocated by government. When we started preparing we knew that there was not going to be enough money coming," he said.

The committee says President Robert Mugabe's cash-strapped government has spent over \$23.3 million on facilities and an unspecified

amount on preparations.

In Zimbabwe's 1995/96 national budget announced last month, the government set aside \$6 million for the national sports commission, tasked with overseeing the September 13-23 games.

But the vote has still to go through parliamentary procedures before the money is handed over.

64, 7-6 (7-1) battle.

"It was very exciting to win a match like this one," said Golmard through an interpreter about his best career victory.

"I got cramps in my thigh

at 2-2 in the third set.

Generally when I get cramps, there is no way I can recover. But this time because it was Jim Courier in front of me, I had the motivation to fight as hard as I could. And it worked."

Courier had a number of chances in the final set to secure a third-round berth.

Serving for the match at 5-3, Courier double-faulted twice, including on game point, to let Golmard back into the match.

At 30-40 on Golmard's

serve in the 12th game, Courier had a match point when he netted a backhand. Courier never got into the tiebreaker against the left-

handed Golmard, losing the first six points.

"I just played a bad breaker," Courier said. "He didn't have to do anything. I just made mistakes."

Golmard, who visibly faded from the heat to Michael Stich of Germany at last week's ATP championship, said that although it was still humid Tuesday evening, he was in much better shape this

China hits back at calls for Olympic ban

BEIJING (AFP) — China on Wednesday hit back at calls that its swimmers be banned from next year's Olympic Games because of drug suspicion.

"People most not forget the efforts made by the Chinese Swimming Federation to combat drug taking," said an official for the Chinese State Sports Commission.

China's swimmers have been under a drug cloud since seven of them — including two world champions — tested positive at last year's Asian Games in Hiroshima.

China was banned from last week's Pan Pacific swimming championships in Atlanta, next year's Olympic hosts, because of the drug scandal.

And at the championships, swimmers from Australia, United States, New Zealand and Canada, backed by the World Swimming Coaches Association, called for the Chinese to be kept out of the Atlanta Games. They demanded a strict anti-doping programme be adopted.

But the commission official said China was prepared to cooperate with any action to combat drug taking.

He reaffirmed the official stance that "the drug problems in Chinese sport in recent months were the result of individual acts, to generalise would be to condemn the majority of innocent swimmers."

Orthodoxi upset Jazireh 66-62 in U-22 basketball championship

By Aleen Bannayan
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Al Ahli await Thursday's match against Al Jazireh to secure their place atop the standings in the Under-22 basketball championship playoffs.

The only unbeaten team so far, Al Ahli proved they are the title favourites after 87-64 and 97-95 wins over Al Orthodoxy and Al Yarmouk.

Meanwhile, titleholders Al Jazireh suffered a setback Tuesday evening when they lost 66-62 to Al Orthodoxy. The latter had missed last year's championship and will next face Al Yarmouk in an easy match. The second round of the playoffs begin Sunday.

Ashraf Samara, playing his first season for Al Orthodoxy after transferring from lowly Al Abbasi, led his new team to victory over Al Jazireh whose players seemed all a loss and hardly displayed their better-known form.

Al Orthodoxy had the upper hand and were the better team throughout the close match leading 22-19 before Jazireh's Ma'an Odeh tied the score at 24-24. The first half ended 28-28.

Al Jazireh applied a full court press defence at the beginning of the second half as Ghaith Ennabi, Naser Alawneh, and Yousef Abu Baker secured rebounding to lead 37-

33. But Al Orthodoxy seemed determined not to let the match slip out of their hands as they scored by Mahmoud Tabatabai, Ihab Msih and Samara to tie the game 42-42.

Ennabi and Alawneh gave their team the lead 46-42 but Al Orthodoxy took control from that point on with Samara rebounding and converting almost all free throws while Jazireh's players had inaccurate shots and Alawneh missed half a dozen free throws that could have significantly altered the result.

Al Orthodoxy's Nasser Bassam managed to hamper his opponents with many fouls and together with Samara maintained their team's lead as Jazireh's coach enlisted the efforts of bench players while the team's key stars Abu Baker, Ennabi and Munther Muheisen sat out the match which ended with Al Orthodoxy win 66-62.

Teams eliminated in the

Today's matches at Al Ahli court

* Yarmouk-Orthodoxy Thurs. 17/8 5 pm.

Alhi-Jazireh Thurs. 17/8 6:30 p.m.

STADNINGS

	P	W	L	SF	SA	Pts.
Alhi	2	2	—	184	119	4
Jazireh	2	1	1	154	108	3
Orthodoxy	2	1	1	130	149	3
Yarmouk	2	—	2	97	189	2

Seles returns in triumph, Graf upset at Canadian Open

TORONTO (R) — Monica Seles played her happiest 60 minutes of tennis in more than two years on Tuesday, beating American Kimberly Po 6-0 6-3 to celebrate her return to tournament competition at the Canadian Open.

The 21-year-old Seles's comeback from 28 months off the tour after being stabbed at a tournament in Hamburg was a smashing success as she blasted two-handed groundstrokes with pace and precision to outgun the 133rd-ranked Po.

But in another second-round match, her co-number one seed Steffi Graf was upset 3-6 6-2 7-6 (8-6) by South African Amanda Coetzer. It was Graf's first loss in seven tournaments this year and ended a 32-match winning streak for the 26-year-old German.

Seles lapped up the fans' appreciation of her return.

After belting a forehand winner on match point, she shook hands with Po, then ran over to embrace her parents seated in a courtside box. She then walked back out onto the court and spent two minutes waving to spectators, who were on their feet applauding.

"For a long time everything was dark. Now I see the sun again," Seles said.

"I think I played pretty well," she said, "but all I could ever ask for is just to be out there playing again, so it can't do that."

Po said she enjoyed playing before the enthusiastic centre court crowd of 8,206 and noted: "Monica hit deep and with great angles. I thought she played really well."

To a suggestion that Seles was not moving as well as she used to, Po replied: "Maybe



she seemed a little slow a couple of times when I was wrongfooted her. But I've only played her once before. Maybe if Steffi played her ..."

The third set was a seesaw affair in which Graf trailed 2-3 but then led 4-3, 40-15 before Coetzer drew level at 4-4. Graf eventually served for the match up 6-5 in the final set.

But at 30-all Coetzer blasted a screaming forehand service return winner, then won the game when Graf netted a backhand.

In the tiebreak, Graf made no unforced forehand errors and doublefaulted to trail 0-3.

Down triple matchpoint at 3-6, he rallied to 6-all but then a tame backhand service return into the net and a

forehand drive into the alley allowed Coetzer to record her first victory in seven matches with Graf.

"This is without a doubt the best win of my career," said Coetzer, who said she has been helped by new coach Gavin Hopper

Sports

Ferrari sign Schumacher; Alesi moves to Benetton

MARANELLO, Italy (AP) — Famed Italian Formula One team Ferrari issued a terse, three-line news release Wednesday, confirming last week's widely reported signing of Michael Schumacher to a two-year contract.

The 26-year-old German will complete this season with Benetton-Renault and then begin driving for Ferrari in 1996.

Meanwhile, the Benetton team announced in London that it signed Frenchman Jean Alesi for 1996 and 1997 seasons to replace Schumacher, a swap of the team's top drivers.

Alesi, 31, who was highly touted when he joined Ferrari in 1991 to start his third season in Formula One, has only one Grand Prix victory in 6½ years on the circuit, that coming earlier this year.

Schumacher, who is the defending Formula One champion and holds an 11-point lead over Damon Hill (36-45) in the chase for this year's crown, is in his third season with Benetton.

With the retirement of Alain Prost and the death of Ayrton Senna, Schumacher has inherited the mantle of being Formula One's pre-eminent driver.

Wednesday's announcement by Ferrari officially ended weeks of rumours and speculation about the so-called "deal of the century" — the largest driver's contract in Formula One history.

Published reports said the contract was worth 40 billion lire (\$24 million) a year for Schumacher.

Ferrari did not disclose terms of the contract for the 1996 and 1997 seasons, which team sources said provides an

option for a third year extension.

The transfer of Schumacher to Ferrari and of Alesi to Benetton was expected to spark a shuffle in the driving rosters for Formula One teams next season.

Austrian veteran Gerhard Berger, the other Ferrari driver, was reportedly negotiating with McLaren while Williams-Renault, which recently extended the contract of Damon Hill, announced on Wednesday the signing for young Canadian Jacques Villeneuve as its second driver for 1996.

Villeneuve, Indianapolis 500 champion and current IndyCar points leader, will replace David Coulthard who's likely to join either Benetton or McLaren.

Ferrari sources said Schumacher's transfer to Ferrari was announced following the formal signing at a "secret location" Monday.

However, the news was widely expected after Giovanni Agnelli, the chairman of Ferrari's parent company Fiat of Turin, revealed the acquisition was a done deal.

"When you have such a driver as Schumacher, if you don't win it's the team fault," Agnelli said, laying down the challenge for the Ferrari team next season.

Schumacher, who was married two weeks ago, is leaving one of the most successful teams in hopes of reviving the tarnished luster of Ferrari.

The Italian team, which has won more constructors' titles (eight), more races (105), more pole positions (113), and contested more races (546) than any other team in Formula One history,



Michael Schumacher

has won only twice in the last 4½ years.

The signing of Schumacher was known to be part of broad commercial plan by Ferrari, including agreements with new commercial sponsors likely to finance most of the deal with the German driver.

Both Ferrari and Benetton said their complete driver lineup for the next season will be announced at a later date. British driver Johnny Her-

Women's Basketball Championship

Ahli face Jazireh in opening match

By Aleen Bannayan
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — It is once again time for the annual women's basketball championship, and once more competition has again narrowed down to three teams.

However, a different atmosphere surrounds the competition this year.

The game is on a high note at the moment after the women's national team's first participation in the recently concluded Asian Championship which was held July 23-30 in Shizuoka, Japan.

This was a first for Arab and Jordanian basketball, and gave the Kingdom's players an incentive to play after the Jordan Basketball Federation (JBF) finally regrouped the national team following a 12-year absence.

With limited and insufficient preparation, Jordan came in fifth in Level B and the team's top scorer and rebounder Junama Salti was chosen among the top five players.

The women's game needed the national team spirit. Players who were obstinate opponents playing only for their respective clubs over the past years have now become good friends and are more than ready to join hands to further improve the national team and represent the Kingdom in upcoming regional and international competitions.

However, that will be put on hold for the coming three weeks until after the women's 1995 championship is concluded.

The JBF has decided to hold the event in three rounds, giving the teams a chance to play more matches. Al Jazireh meet Al Ahli in the opening match at Al Ahli's court at 6 p.m. Friday. The event will conclude Aug. 31.

Competition is expected to be close with titleholders Al Orthodoxi aiming to retain their title while Al Jazireh will play with an incomplete lineup with five key players missing the competition for a host of reasons. Al Ahli who stayed out of the competition last season have been preparing for a strong comeback after their third place finish in 1993.

In fact the number of competing teams has never gone above four in the past five years.

With no competitions held between 1983 and 1988, Orthodoxi, Ahli and Homentmen started women's basketball's latest comeback in 1989 as Orthodoxi kept a powerful grip on the title. After two seasons Al Jazireh entered the competition finishing fourth behind the three aforementioned teams in 1991. Al Jazireh then took third place from Homentmen in 1992 and clinched the trophy by scoring a major upset of Al Orthodoxi in 1993 as Al Ahli fell back to

third and Abu Nusair came in fourth with Homentmen missing the competition. Al Orthodoxi regained the crown last year in an incomplete championship when Al Jazireh abruptly pulled out of the competition citing differences with the JBF while the only other competing team was Abu Nusair, a lowly newcomer. Homentmen and Al Ahli stayed out of the competition with an incomplete lineup, while Al Watani registered a team for the first time but did not take part.

"We are eager to play, despite missing five key players," Jazireh's head coach Fadi Sabbat told the Jordan Times. "However, this will be a good chance for our bench and younger players," he added.

Al Jazireh will be missing two key starters: Suhair Makusi, who suffered an aggravated knee injury in Japan and Jumana Salti who might only play two matches before she leaves for the U.S. to continue her studies. Teammates Rana Hussein, Tamara Al Khadra, Dima Shadid and Maryam Ta'am are abroad. The former titleholders are thus left with players Hala Muheisen, Tala Al Mauge and Rania Dajani together with a group of younger players.

Al Orthodoxi have Dima and Ghada Qandah teaming up with Hind Ghouri and Zina Farah. Veteran Shireen Abu Khader is now back on the team and Jihan Abdounour might also join her teammates if she takes leave from her work in Beirut.

Al Orthodoxi's coach, Amer Taleb, could not be reached for comment.

Al Ahli have a lineup of relatively inexperienced players after a transitional period in the past years when many of their top players quit the game. Al Ahli also missed the competition last year, but now have a group of eager players like Andrea Kasesieh, Sirsa Naghaway, Tetyana Qardan, Zein Sha'sha' and others.

"This is just a starting point for our newly-regrouped team," said Al Ahli's coach Ghaid Al Najjar. "Most of our players are comparatively young and will be playing their first championship."

Like other teams, Najjar said his team lacked match experience because there were no other teams to play against. "The three participating teams could only play against their boy's teams. However I am glad that the JBF decided to have a three-round competition. It is very beneficial."

Schedule of first round (all at Ahli court)

Jazireh-Ahli Fri. 18/8 6 p.m.

Orthodoxi-Ahli Sat. 19/8 6 p.m.

Jazireh-Orthodoxi Mon. 21/8 6 p.m.

Johnson satisfied with World Championships

GOTEBORG (AP) — Carl Johnson, who didn't manage to return to the ring.

Critics urge Tyson to apologize to Washington and speak out about violence against women.

Michael Johnson, who did and went home with three gold medals and the unofficial title of world's best track athlete, didn't agree.

"I don't think there is ever going to be an apology," said fight commentator Freddie Pacheco. "Mike Tyson still thinks he was wrongly imprisoned."

Pacheco contrasted Tyson's return to that of Muhammad Ali, who was banned from boxing for three years for refusing to fight in Vietnam.

"The difference is, Ali came back a hero," Pacheco said. "Mike has lost his public and has to win it back. We'll see what happens. It's an on-going soap-opera drama."

While Tyson is happy to talk about his new maturity and his new faith, he brushes off all references to Washington, and tries to turn the questions back to McNeely.

Triple jumper Jonathan Edwards broke the world record twice with back-to-back leaps, sprinter Gwen Torrence crossed the line first in three races but was disqualified in one and her rival, Merlene Ottey, went home with three more medals to take her total to 13, three more than Lewis.

Kim Batten and Tonja Buford were inside Sally Gunnell's world record for the 400 metres hurdles, only .01 separating the two Americans who they dipped for the change.

Triple jumper Inessa Kravets added .41 centimetres to the world record and Cuban long jumper Ivan Pedroso, who's waiting to hear if his leap of 8.96 is ratified to beat Mike Powell's world mark, took away the American's world title.

Because he was injured, Lewis didn't get the chance to contribute to the American team's total of 12 golds two silvers and five bronze medals. No other nation managed to get more than two golds.

Sergei Bubka maintained his sweep of titles in the pole vault, taking it to five, and four athletes, decathlete Dan O'Brien, steeplechaser Moses Kiptanui, discus thrower Lars Riedel and

1,500-meter runner Noureddine Morceli, all won for the third time in a row.

In Sunday's final day of competition, the U.S. swept both women's relays.

International Community School

P.O.Box 2002, Khilda, Amman

Now registering for September 1995

Children are accepted between the ages of 3-11 years and we are the only school in Amman to offer the full British Curriculum adapted for the international community.

Our language of instruction is English with special support for non-English speakers. Staff are U.K. qualified. Music, P.E. and Drama are taught by specialists right through the school. French and Arabic are also offered. The school provides a pleasant stimulating environment - care is taken to meet the needs of each individual child. Visits encouraged.

The school is open every Monday morning, 9 am - 12 noon, throughout July and August.

get further details by

Tel: 841070 Fax: 847109

Tyson tries to put years of turmoil behind him

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Mike Tyson says his fight with Peter McNeely on Saturday will prove he is the same fighter he was before he spent three years in prison. But he vows he will never be the same man.

Tyson was convicted of raping beauty pageant contestant Desirée Washington on February 10, 1992. It was the culmination of years of personal turmoil that started before he was a teenager and spiraled as he became the youngest world heavyweight champion in history.

Tyson was just 20 when he won the World Boxing Council title by knocking out Trevor Berbick on November 22, 1986.

He won the World Boxing Association title on points from James "Bonecrusher" Smith on March 7, 1987, then became undisputed champion on August 1 of that year by winning the International Boxing Federation title from Tony Tucker on points.

But his reign was studded with lurid incidents — a street brawl with heavyweight Mitch Green, problems with women, a car park attendant who accused Tyson of striking him.

His stormy marriage to actress Robin Givens gave the tabloids more fodder. They were divorced in June 1989, and seven months later the once invincible "Iron Mike" was knocked out by James "Buster" Douglas in the 10th round in Tokyo.

Tyson has admitted his lifestyle had interfered with his boxing.

"I knew I could beat those guys," he said in one interview. "I wasn't interested. I just wanted to have fun back then. I had been fighting for a long time. I never had time to myself."

But the man who once prided himself on being "wild" now speaks of being "humble." He also speaks of trust, betrayal and self-reliance.

"You have to make your own decisions. You have to

trust in your decisions," Tyson said. "From now on I am going to make my own mistakes and go with my own judgment."

"That's how come I learned to be humble, so that I don't talk about nobody. I don't get arrogant about nobody. I have the same malice in my heart as far as the fight game is concerned, but outside the ring, I won't say anything a dignified man won't say."

Tyson credits his prison conversion to Islam with the change.

But some observers say Tyson's decision to stick with controversial promoter Don King means Tyson will find himself a mere performer in the same old.

King has kept a low profile since Tyson was freed, but there's no doubt he has influence with Rory Holloway and John Horne, the childhood friends Tyson named as his co-managers.

After running the fourth leg of the 1600 relay, Johnson wound up with more gold medals than any other athlete from the fifth worlds. He now totals six, four fewer than Lewis, who failed to compete in the long jump or relay because of injury.

There were other athletes who probably would disagree with Lewis.

Triple jumper Jonathan Edwards broke the world record twice with back-to-back leaps, sprinter Gwen Torrence crossed the line first in three races but was disqualified in one and her rival, Merlene Ottey, went home with three more medals to take her total to 13, three more than Lewis.

Triple jumper Inessa Kravets added .41 centimetres to the world record and Cuban long jumper Ivan Pedroso, who's waiting to hear if his leap of 8.96 is ratified to beat Mike Powell's world mark, took away the American's world title.

Because he was injured, Lewis didn't get the chance to contribute to the American team's total of 12 golds two silvers and five bronze medals.

No other nation managed to get more than two golds.

FURNISHED VILLA FOR RENT

3 bedrooms + 3 bathrooms plus drawing, dining and sitting rooms, garden, garage + telephone. Location: Iskan Alia.

Please Call 714279 - 711511 Between 10 Am & 6 Pm

FOR RENT IN ABDOUN

Flat consists of three bedrooms (one master), big salon, sitting and dining room, three bathrooms, servant's room, garage, first floor.

For more information please contact telefax : 663816

DELUXE FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT IN ABDOUN

Consists of 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, salon, dining room, sitting room with new furniture and electrical appliances.

Third floor, with telephone, central heating and satellite dish.

Call Tel: 862902

FOR RENT

14 flats (possible to have 42 luxury suites). Located in Amman's exclusive residential area, Al-Rabia with a very beautiful view. Suitable for diplomatic missions and foreign companies, air line staff, expatriates working on local projects. Fully air-conditioned and tastefully furnished.

Only direct contact is accepted Tel: 836700

APARTMENT FOR RENT

A 3 bedroom super deluxe furnished apartment is ready for annual rent. Which contains the following:

- * Telephone.
- * 2 T.V. & 1 Video sets.
- * Refrigerator, washing & drying machine.
- * Parking lot.
- * Separate utilities.

If interested call 644439 from 3 to 6 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SOUS CHEF

The Petra Forum Hotel requires an Executive Sous Chef with the following qualifications:

- Previous international experience
- Minimum 3 years experience at sous chef level with an international five star hotel company
- Excellent administrative and training skills
- Good section and buffet presentation skills background
- Good man management and team leadership experience

Mideast Development Bank to be launched at Amman summit

WASHINGTON (USIA) — The upcoming Amman economic summit will ratify the establishment of the controversial Middle East Development Bank, one of four institutional bodies to be launched next October in support of the concept of "public-private partnership" endorsed last year at the inaugural economic parley in Casablanca.

This was confirmed in an interview with Susan Levine, co-leader of the U.S. delegation to the multinational task force fine-tuning the summit's agenda. "We had a sufficient number of countries supporting the bank (at our recent meeting in Moscow) that we are going to be able to announce it in Amman."

She added matter-of-factly, "We had some real breakthrough; we are no longer evaluating several proposals, we are now evaluating one proposal."

Her reference was to proposals voiced by some early detractors of the bank concept in Europe and among some Gulf Arab states. With regards to the latter, she explained that the Gulf states have been coming to the task force meetings but "some may be taking a wait-and-see attitude to see what happens with the whole (Mideast) peace process."

Speaking on a recent tele-

vision programme, Joan Spero, undersecretary of State for Business, Economic and Agriculture Affairs, spelled out the steps the private and the public sectors have to undertake if their new partnership is to flourish: "The private sector must provide the entrepreneurial talent, investment capital, and technical expertise for development. The public sector must improve the economic environment by liberalising trade policies, reducing regulation, privatising industry, and improving the investment climate."

The Middle East Development Bank is one of the four institutional bodies to be officially inaugurated at the Amman Summit. All feature regional government and private sector participation. The other three are:

— A Regional Business Council, which will be a private, non-profit association that is intended to promote and facilitate regional trade and investment;

— A Regional Tourism Board, which will focus on developing tourism and marketing regional tourism opportunities;

— An Executive Secretariat, which will work to advance the public-private partnership by promoting contracts and fostering private sector investment in the re-

gion. The secretariat was established in Morocco shortly after the Casablanca meeting.

The development bank, proposed originally by Jordan, Israel, Egypt and the Palestinians, is expected to have three primary points of focus, according to Levine. These are:

— A regional infrastructure in which the bank would play a co-financing role with other existing financial institutions;

— A private sector mandate to help develop the private sector in the region;

— A consultative body which will discuss economic and trade policies.

The capital of the bank, she continued, will be \$5 billion with a paid-in capital of 25 per cent or \$1.25 billion. To underline its magnitude, she cited the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), which has a paid-in capital of \$10 billion but has many more countries to cover in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet republics.

Ms. Levine emphasised that the bank, as in the European case, will not have a soft-loan window, although provisions will be made for the use of voluntary trust

(Continued on page 3)



REFUGEE FLOW: Families expelled from Serb-held northern Bosnia cross the River Sava in small boats into Croatia. Several hundred people were expelled on Tuesday and Wednesday and many more expected to be expelled in an ethnic cleansing campaign waged by the Serbs (AFP photo)

Opposition fears U.S. backing defector to replace Saddam

DUBAI (AFP) — Iraqi opposition groups expressed fears that Washington would try to replace President Saddam Hussein with his right-hand man who defected last week, destroying their hopes of radical change.

Arab and Kurdish exiled opposition members warned that Hussein Kamel Hassan, President Saddam's son-in-law former industry minister who defected to Jordan on Aug. 8, would also be a ruthless and undemocratic leader.

SCIRI, meanwhile, issued a statement saying: "Meeting Hussein Kamel or cooperating with him is out of the question, because this character is among those who have committed massacres against the Iraqi people."

"We believe that the nature of the regime would not change if Hussein Kamel were in power," he added.

An INC member who did not want to be named said: "The democratic and Islamic opposition fears there is a U.S. scenario to overthrow Saddam Hussein and replace him with someone from the same government."

"Hussein Kamel is the ideal solution for the Americans because they want a change from within the regime," the official said.

"We believe it will be a change in people and not in the nature of the regime," he said. "It won't be Hussein Kamel who will set up a democratic government in Baghdad."

The Iraqi National Congress (INC), an umbrella group for the opposition, said his defection "offers the opposition and the Iraqi people new opportunities to work together to topple the dictator Saddam Hussein."

House discusses Khalifeh case and law on telecommunications

By Sa'eda Kilani
Special to the Jordan Times

dent and said the case was now in the hands of the attorney general.

Answering questions raised by members of the Lower House, Salameh Hammad, told Parliament yesterday that the case of the Khalifeh brothers, who were shot by police in "self-defence" last June, was now in the hands of the judicial authorities, and the prosecutor general could provide information to deputies upon request.

Mr. Hammad said that policemen shot at the two brothers in self-defence.

According to Mr. Hammad, when policemen went to arrest the two brothers upon a court order, they were taken aback by shooting from within the apartment and had to return fire. As a result Mahmoud was killed, his brother Bashir was injured and one policeman was injured.

Bashar was treated at Al Hussein Medical Centre and is currently under arrest, pending trial, according to officials.

In a meeting with representatives of the foreign media last month, Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker admitted that the government had made a mistake by not issuing a statement clarifying the circumstances which led to the shooting incident. The prime minister

(Continued on page 3)

protection to the citizen?"

Deputy Mohammad Oweidah, who was the first to take the floor in yesterday's session, said the minister's written reply was not satisfactory.

He said that the minister did not explain why the two brothers were wanted, why so many armed police units were sent to the scene and what measures the government had taken before resorting to this act.

The case "is very serious... Does anyone have the right to enforce the law by himself?" Deputy Oweidah asked. "So many stories were told about this incident and we were expecting the government to tell the people the truth" at the time of the incident.

In a meeting with represen-

tatives of the foreign media last month, Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker admitted that the government had made a mistake by not issuing a statement clarifying the circumstances which led to the shooting incident. The prime minister

(Continued on page 3)

Sifi urges support for presidential poll

PARIS (R) — Algeria's Prime Minister Mokdad Sifi has said that any failure to hold presidential elections this year would worsen the country's civil strife and threaten its unity.

"Because Algeria is going through difficult times, it can not run the risk of a (poll) failure which will only increase our people's sufferings and call into question (Algeria's) unity and independence," Mr. Sifi told the governors of the country's 48 regions who are meeting to plot the poll organisation.

"We have a historical mission which we must carry... in spite of the obstacles... coming either from political aspects and rumours or various sabotages," Mr. Sifi, who heads a government poll task-force, said in his speech which was carried by the state media.

The country's opposition groups, including Muslim militants fighting the security forces, have rejected President Liamine Zeroual's call for presidential elections before the end of the year.

The opposition urged instead the army-backed authorities to resume negotiations with the fundamentalists leaders to stop the violence.

There has been an upsurge of violence in recent weeks with a spate of car bombs attacks by the Muslim rebels across the country after the failure of an earlier round of talks between the government and Islamist leaders.

Mr. Sifi, who called the two-day meeting with the local officials to assess the poll preparations, urged Algerians to take part in the upcoming election, saying the voting was "significant."

"We say to the citizens, do fulfil your election duty and voice your goodwill. We say to the politicians: Take over your responsibilities towards the country and history," he said.

'Israelis killed Arab PoWs in 1967 war'

TEL AVIV (AP) — In a new revelation about prisoner killings, an Israeli army soldier said Wednesday that he witnessed two Israeli army cooks stab to death three Egyptian prisoners of war (PoWs) in the 1967 Middle East war.

The veteran, author and former parliament member Michael Bar-Zohar, spoke out on Israel Radio about the killings a day after Egypt asked Israel to investigate claims by a retired Israeli general that he and another officer shot dead 49 Egyptian PoWs in the 1956 Mideast war.

Mr. Bar-Zohar, a former legislator in Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's Labour Party, said the killings took place in the string of massacres targeting civilians, in the Sinai peninsula in June 1967.

"I saw suddenly a gathering of soldiers near a barbed wire fence. I went there and saw with my own eyes... two cooks with knives in broad daylight. They simply slaughtered three prisoners," Mr. Bar-Zohar said.

"This incident has haunted me for a long time. I saw this murder and lots of soldiers stood around me and no one lifted a finger."

Mr. Bar-Zohar said he took the cooks to the tent of the battalion commander, and that the two were arrested. He did not say what happened to the cooks.

Mr. Bar-Zohar said he kept quiet about the killings of the three PoWs he witnessed because he feared Arab troops would retaliate in kind.

Israeli military historian Meir Pail said he knew of several cases in which officers or enlisted men killed Arab PoWs or civilians.

He said the offenders were sentenced secretly by military courts, but that the military censor barred publication of such cases until recently.

"There used to be a policy of not publishing this. The

idea was that it is better to deal with this in the closed circle of the military," Mr. Pail, a colonel in the army reserves and battalion commander in the 1956 war, told the Associated Press.

The army spokesman's office had no immediate comment. An Israeli official said on condition of anonymity that Israeli pilots and other prisoners had been killed by Egypt and that neither country had an interest in making an issue of such incidents now.

Zeev Schul, a former Israeli military correspondent, said that in the 1948 Mideast war, Egyptian troops murdered an Israeli reconnaissance squad, then cut off the men's sex organs and gouged out their eyes. The six Israeli soldiers, including a friend of Mr. Schul's, were found by their comrades propped up against sand dunes, their eyes placed in their hands, Mr. Schul said.

Mr. Bar-Zohar said that in the 1973 Mideast war, his own paratroop unit came close to killing PoWs in the Sinai.

"We took a group of Egyptian prisoners, stood them against a wall... and we decided to shoot them," Mr. Bar-Zohar said. "We stood before them with cocked weapons and could not fire."

He said he and his comrades instead gave the prisoners water and sent them away.

Mr. Bar-Zohar's disclosure came a week after retired General Arye Birn acknowledged in newspaper and TV interviews that he ordered the killing of 49 Egyptian PoWs during the October 1956 Sinai campaign.

Mr. Birn, then a platoon commander, said he received orders to move south in the Sinai, but lacked troops to guard the prisoners. Mr. Birn said he decided to kill them

(Continued on page 3)

Jordan-Kuwaiti rapprochement still faces hurdles

But Sheikh Sabah sees ties with Jordan developing

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwaitis say Jordanian efforts to bridge one of the most bitter gaps in the Arab World still face a barrier of mistrust, five years after the Gulf crisis divided the two countries.

Jordan, estranged from Gulf Arab states by sympathy for Iraq during its 1990-91 occupation of Kuwait, has clawed back relations with most of them by patient diplomacy.

Amman's ties with Saudi Arabia, its other major outstanding rift, were given a boost last week when the two states consulted closely on top Iraqi defectors to whom Jordan granted asylum.

Kuwaiti deputies and officials say the depth of

vivid memories of widespread popular support for Iraq in Jordanian streets and newspapers.

Hundreds of thousands of Jordanians, many of them of Palestinian origin and long-term residents, fled Kuwait during the occupation or were forced to leave amid Kuwaiti hostility after the 1991 liberation. They have not yet returned to their故地.

He said a resumption of Jordanian diplomatic representation in Kuwait still appeared a long way off, although a non-diplomatic presence might be reinstated shortly.

Efforts were stepped up to patch up ties after last week's Iraqi defections.

Kuwait's Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah con-

firmed to reporters in Kuwait that he had called his Jordanian counterpart Abdul Karim Kabariti after the defection.

Mr. Kabariti was reported on Wednesday as saying he expected to meet Sheikh Sabah on the sidelines of an Arab foreign ministers meeting in Cairo next month. It would be the first official top-level contact in five years.

Sheikh Sabah also said last week he saw Kuwait's ties with Jordan developing. "We hope in the coming days that there is an increase in progress in ties between Kuwait and Jordan," he said.

But Abdul Mohsen Jamil, a member of parlia-

ment, said Jordan's granting of political amnesty to the Iraqi defectors — a move seen as courageous by Kuwait's Western allies — would not make any difference to ordinary Kuwaitis.

"Jordan should take this opportunity to mend relations with Kuwait and Saudi Arabia," Mr. Jamil said. "But until now (Jordan) has not admitted what he called Jordanian 'mistakes' during the Gulf war. The government did not admit liability or wrongdoing in agreeing to settle Mr. Weaver's lawsuit."

Mr. Kabariti was visiting Saudi Arabia on Wednesday, carrying a letter from King Hussein to King Fahd. Jordanian officials hope it could lead to a summit this year to end their rift.

(Continued on page 3)

JORDAN TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, AUGUST 17-18, 1995

COLUMN

Fly me to Cuba, says man armed with vodka bottle

JOHANNESBURG (R)

A man carrying a vodka bottle which he said was a petrol bomb tried to hijack a South African domestic flight to Cuba, airline official said Wednesday.

"He said he wanted to go to Cuba," Johan Crouse, chairman of Phoenix Airways, told a new conference after the abortive mid-air hijack attempt Tuesday night.

Police said a 31-year-old white South African man was in custody after having been overpowered by cabin crew once the Boeing 727, on a flight from Cape Town to Johannesburg, had returned to Cape Town. Mr. Crouse said the man carrying a paper bag with a bottle inside entered the cockpit shortly after take-off and demanded the plane, carrying 97 passengers and seven crew, divert to Cuba.

The man said the bag contained a petrol bomb. "It was explained to him that you need fuel and maps to fly to Cuba, so the plane would have to return to Cape Town. He was unhappy but he agreed," Mr. Crouse said.

"He said that if his instructions were not carried out he would have no hesitation in using the bomb..." However when the hijacker said he wanted to smoke, the crew realised it was safe and the flight engineer got hold of the bag and the hijacker was overpowered.

Rolf Ekeus, UN Secretary-General, has called for a meeting of the Security Council to discuss the situation.

The Iraqi opposition has now accepted the peace plan offered by the United Nations.

British shoppers set to shed pounds

LONDON (AFP) — British supermarkets started readying shoppers Tuesday for an imminent transformation in the way goods are priced and packaged according to weight, as old imperial measurements prepare to go metric. Supermarkets and chains put up large posters explaining an EU ruling under which food products will no longer be priced in terms of pounds and ounces but kilogrammes and grammes.

For a first period, the imperial measurements will remain small figures beneath their metric equivalents to help consumers get used to the new pricing mechanism. All outlets failing to observe the EU ruling will be fined up to £5,000 (\$7,500).

U.S. to pay white supremacist \$3.1 million in damages

WASHINGTON (AFP) — White supremacist Randy Weaver will receive \$3.1 million in damages from the government in connection with the killing of his wife and son during a standoff with U.S. federal agents in 1992.

The government's actions in Ruby Ridge, Idaho, during the siege, which began with an attempt to serve Mr. Weaver with an arrest warrant, led to the demolition of one top-ranking FBI agent, who was suspended along with four other agents.

Federal prosecutors are conducting a criminal investigation to determine if FBI officials tried to cover up their role in giving the shoot-to-kill orders. Mr. Weaver was linked to at least one white supremacist group and the violent end to his stand-off with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) became a cause célèbre for various supremacists, survivalists and anti-government groups.

At issue in the current investigation is why the snipers were told they "could and should" use deadly force in the stand-off. Mr. Weaver's son, 14-year-old Samuel Weaver, was killed during an initial confrontation with U.S. marshals, who were preparing to arrest the elder Weaver on weapons charges.

The white supremacist who held himself up in his cabin, during the siege that followed, Mr. Weaver's wife, Vicki, was shot by government sharpshooters, who said later they were aiming at a man they thought was going for his gun.